

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JANUARY 1985

Israel

Airlift of Ethiopian Jews — IDF and Jerusalem radios divulged details of Israel's airlift of thousands of Ethiopian Jews, noting that a secret airlift operation was begun about 3 months ago because of the famine conditions in Ethiopia and that the government and the Jewish Agency have taken measures to absorb the new immigrants. Further information on the operation was given at a press conference reported by Jerusalem radio in which government and Jewish Agency officials revealed that over 10,000 Ethiopian Jews have come to Israel, many of them suffering from African diseases and famine.

Lebanon

Objections by Walid Junblatt's side to the deployment of the Internal Security Forces in three positions specified by the security plan prevented the dispatch of an Internal Security Force to the Al-Kharrub region on 3 January, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Efforts to resolve the problem through a liaison committee proved unsuccessful through 4 January, according to Voice of Lebanon. In a related report, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio noted that each party was blaming the other for the "new obstacles," preventing the implementation of the first stage of the coastal road security plan.

Meanwhile, the cease-fire collapsed in the Mountain area, according to the Voice of Lebanon, which blamed Junblatt's forces for the renewed shelling. In Beirut, gunmen kidnapped the Swiss charge d'affaires, the radio disclosed. In another development, the radio reported that roads between East and West Beirut were reopened after being closed for 6 days by relatives of kidnapped persons.

As for Israel's position on Lebanon, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in remarks broadcast by IDF radio that Israel will have to find a solution which will not necessarily provide a "good answer" to Israel's goals of "reasonable" security and bringing the IDF back home. Speaking to IDF officers in Lebanon, he affirmed that Israel should strive to attain a solution by the end of 1985.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Jordan's King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Amman on 3 January for talks on joint Jordanian-Palestinian action, Amman radio reported. Meanwhile, in a London magazine interview cited by KUNA,

PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'i'h expressed his willingness to travel to Damascus for talks to settle differences with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Nevertheless, the new PNC speaker stressed that there is "no alternative" to 'Arafat's leadership of the PLO.

In a separate development, the Jordanian interior minister began talks with his Egyptian counterpart in Cairo on bilateral cooperation in security and police affairs, according to MENA.

Iraq

Three criminals responsible for planting a bomb in Baghdad last month have admitted in confessions broadcast by Baghdad television that they were acting upon the instructions of the Iranian authorities and in coordination with Syrian intelligence, INA reported.

Iran

Commenting on the possibility that Iran may close the Strait of Hormuz, Tehran radio's Arabic service stressed that Iran will only take such a step if it is unable to export its oil, at which point it will close the Strait "without hesitation," converting the Gulf waters into "fires that will burn everything." As for the Iraqi air attacks on shipping, the radio contended that the "Ba'thist air bats" can no longer distinguish between ships loaded with Iranian oil and those loaded with oil from other Gulf countries.

Pakistan-Afghanistan

A Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman cited by Karachi radio dismissed the DRA's "baseless allegations" that the Pakistani Armed Forces shelled Afghanistan's Barikowt region between 24-29 December, noting that Pakistan has informed the DRA charge d'affaires in Islamabad that his government should refrain from leveling such "fabricated" charges. The spokesman pointed out that the Pakistani Armed Forces have been given strict orders to refrain from any type of violation against Afghanistan.

Western Sahara

The SDAR claimed further successes against Moroccan forces, asserting that Polisario troops killed 250 Moroccans in a 1 January attack in the Mahbes region, Algiers radio reported.

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WAKH: PNC Speaker on Al-Qawasimi's Assassination*GF041050 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0846 GMT 4 Jan 85*

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Jan (WAKH) — PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has stated he could not point to the party behind Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination, despite all that is being said in this regard. He emphasized, however, that the perpetrators are malicious criminals who wish to sow conflict among the Arabs and between the Palestinians and Jordanians.

In a statement published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA*, Shaykh al-Sa'ih added that the investigation is still going on but the concerned authorities are keeping silent until they have conclusive evidence.

He pointed out that Al-Qawasimi's assassination is a sad link in the history of the Palestinian and Arab struggle, and places fresh obstacles on the road to Palestinian unity and to a Palestinian-Syrian dialogue.

We had wished that others would appreciate the tolerance and nobility evinced at the PNC meeting, resolutions, and political statement so that they would help us to fulfill our aim of Palestinian unity and Palestinian-Syrian-Arab unity.

'Arafat Stresses Need for Armed Struggle*JN031737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has stressed the need for armed struggle. He said future action must be conducted on a number of important, basic axes. The first axis is the Palestinian one, in which emphasis must be on escalating armed struggle by all available means.

In a statement published in Amman, Abu 'Ammar said that ample time must be devoted to bolstering the Palestinian people's steadfastness inside the occupied territory and supporting the Palestinian and Lebanese people in their struggle against the Zionist occupation forces.

On the Lebanese situation, Abu 'Ammar said there is a plot by some sides to divide Lebanon on sectarian bases for the first time in modern times. We are devoting comprehensive attention to this problem and are confronting it with all the means available to us, Abu 'Ammar added.

AL-MAJALIS Interviews 'Arafat on Palestinian Cause*LD031433 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Excerpts] Kuwait, Jan 3 (MAP) — Chairman of the Executive Council of the PLO, Mr Yasir 'Arafat considered the situation prevailing currently in the Arab world as dangerous, namely for the Palestinian cause.

In an interview to the Kuwaiti magazine *AL-MAJALIS*, Mr 'Arafat added that the going on of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the isolation of Egypt from the Arab arena "make of the stage we

are entering a difficult one requiring large and sustained efforts so as to take up the initiative again".

Dealing with the last Jordanian initiative presented by King Husayn during the last session of the PNC, recently held in Amman, Mr 'Arafat specified that the PLO Executive Committee has been entrusted by the PNC with the study of this initiative.

Foreign Leaders Extend Support to 'Arafat*JN031514 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jan 85 p 21*

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* has learned that PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad and Muhammad Milhim have conveyed reply messages to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat from the leaders of China, Pakistan, and the DPRK.

SAWT AL-SHA'B also learned that the leaders of these countries asserted their firm stands on the Palestine issue and their full support for Palestinian legitimacy and PLO unity.

'Arafat Receives Yugoslav Ambassador in Amman 3 Jan*JN041149 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 4 Jan 85 p 16*

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with the Yugoslav ambassador in Amman in the guest palace yesterday. The Yugoslav ambassador conveyed to 'Arafat his country's condolences on the assassination of Martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi and reaffirmed his country's unswerving stand toward Palestinian legitimacy and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The meeting was attended by the PLO Executive Committee members present in Amman.

KUNA: PNC President Says 'No Alternative' to 'Arafat*LD031528 Kuwait KUNA in English 1416 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Text] London, Jan 3 (KUNA) — The president of the PNC has said that he was ready to travel to Damascus to have talks with President al-Asad of Syria to settle differences between the two sides. Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih pledged that he would accept an invitation for a dialogue in Syria on condition that the independence of the Palestinian decisionmaking was maintained.

In an interview with the Arab magazine *AL-TADAMAN* to be published here this Saturday, he stressed that there was "no alternative" to the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who represented the Palestinian "cause and people."

The president of the Palestinian parliament-in-exile was not optimistic about an early prospect for resolving the Middle East problems and establishing a Palestinian state. However, he emphasized that this would not mean an end to the Palestinian struggle as the question should remain "vivid and not to be forgotten."

PLO's Khalil al-Wazir on Need for Armed Struggle*JN031802 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has asserted that armed struggle will remain the main strategy of Palestinian action. In a statement published in Amman, Abu Jihad said that the invasion of Lebanon was not a retaliation against transforming the Palestinian forces into an army but a continuation of the plot against the Palestinian people.

Abu Jihad said: Our strategy is based on one important principle: that the occupied territory is the battlefield of the war against the Zionist enemy from which springs the Palestinian struggle to confront the Zionist occupation's terror and tyranny. It is our people's right to carry arms and fight over every inch of occupied territory.

Abu Jihad noted that distributing Palestinian forces in 10 Arab states was not our choice; we were forced to do this. After leaving Beirut, we wanted to deploy in adjacent areas, in Al-Biq'a and Syria. However, the Syrians, just like the Israelis and Americans, refused to let us be there, Abu Jihad added. He said: We are using our time to train our forces so that they will be ready to carry out their duties.

PLO Delegation To Visit Moscow Next Week*JN021027 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Jan 85 p 24*

[Text] Amman — The *AL-DUSTUR* correspondent has learned that a Palestinian delegation from the PLO Executive Committee will leave for Moscow next week on a tour that includes a number of East European countries. The delegation will comprise PLO Executive Committee members Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin; and Muhammad 'Abbas, alias Abu al-'Abbas.

The *AL-DUSTUR* correspondent has also learned that the Soviet leadership will send an envoy to Tunis within the next few days to meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, within the framework of the efforts being exerted to restore the PLO's unity.

Threat of Danger to PLO-Jordan-Egypt Officials*GF031612 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 2 Jan 85 pp 1, 20*

[Excerpt] Reliable French sources have disclosed that a French colonel was sent secretly by the Elysee Palace to Amman to warn officials of an extremely dangerous plot uncovered by French authorities. The sources said that the plot involved various attacks against prominent figures of the Jordanian-PLO-Egyptian axis, in the form of assassinations, explosions, and kidnappings. These sources said that Jordan and Egypt received similar warnings of attacks a few months ago from the U.S. Administration, which had stressed that the success of such a plot would seriously jeopardize the role of the axis in trying to peacefully solve the Middle East problem.

These sources also said that the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member, should be taken as a lesson and more than a warning by King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. The sources stressed the importance of self-defense and scored Husayn's and 'Arafat's current complacent attitudes.

Anti-Israel Operations in South Lebanon Continue*JN031956 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese resistance fighters are escalating their operations against personnel and vehicles of the Zionist invasion forces as well as the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon, inflicting further losses in men and equipment.

A group of resistance men detonated a high-explosive, remote-controlled device under an Israeli patrol near Al-Sarafand in southern Lebanon yesterday. The explosion destroyed an Israeli armored vehicle, killing or wounding its occupants.

Another group detonated explosive charges under a Zionist military patrol near the village of Shabriha. The explosion destroyed one Zionist vehicle, damaged another, and killed or wounded their occupants.

Another resistance group detonated high-explosive charges as an Israeli military patrol passed near Jubb Jannin in eastern Al-Biq'a, destroying one military truck and killing or wounding a number of Zionist soldiers.

Resistance men attacked a military position belonging to the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in Shukin village with rockets and machine guns, killing or wounding a number of personnel in the agent position.

Resistance fighters carried out the death sentence against agent Yusuf Hattab. They took the man from his house, near the Palestinian 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, and executed him.

An Israeli spokesman admitted these operations but, as usual, refrained from disclosing his losses. The spokesman said his forces launched combing and search campaigns and arrested a great number of Palestinian and Lebanese under the pretext that they have ties with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

Briefs**Arab League Transfers Directors — London, 3 Jan (KUNA)**

— The appointment of Dr 'Adnan al-'Imad as the new director of the Arab League office in London was announced here today. Arab League sources told KUNA that Dr al-'Imad, who formerly was the director of the Arab League's Vienna office, is due in London shortly to assume his new post. Dr al-'Imad, a Qatari, succeeds Khalil al-Azhari, who has been transferred to Arab League headquarters in Tunis. [Text][*Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1324 GMT 3 Jan 85 LD*]

KUWAIT

Draft Law To Regulate Press, Other Media

GF041040 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 3-4 Jan 85
pp 1, 5

[Text] A new draft Kuwaiti press law gives the information minister powers to stop publication of any material that affects the security of Kuwait and its relations with other Arab, Islamic or "friendly countries". It also protects religion, the public interest and the country's morality.

The new draft law which amends the 1961 law was approved at the last meeting of the Council of Ministers. It has been passed to the National Assembly, which is expected to pass it on to the Education, Culture and Guidance Committee for urgent study.

The new draft law prohibits the showing, selling, renting or distributing of audio or video tapes without the permission of the Information Ministry and provides for strict punishment for the distribution of tapes which harm the national interest, the social or political system, or morality.

The draft law lists guidelines for editors and the penalties for failure to meet the conditions of the law. Publication of cabinet proceedings or the discussions at secret sessions of the National Assembly without permission could result in imprisonment and/or fines.

The draft also forbids the publishing of murder or sexual crimes that the investigation authorities do not want published, or any news that might adversely affect the currency or national economy.

Two new articles are added to the 1961 law. One says the owner or director of a publishing house should keep register in which the titles of publications are recorded, as well as the names of the publishers and the number of copies. The register should be available for inspection by administrative or judicial officials.

The other says the owner or director of a press cannot reprint material from any prohibited publication and cannot print from any periodical without permission. Any breach could result in its suspension or cancellation of its licence.

Another article says a printing press can only be run by Kuwaitis who must first obtain a licence. His application must give the name, nationality and residence of the owner; the name, nationality and residence of the director, and the proposed name of the printing press, its location, details of its machinery.

Violations of this article could mean up to six months in jail and a fine of up to KD1,000. The press could also be closed.

A new article forbids the opening or running of a bookshop without a licence from the Information Ministry.

Publishers and others dealing with publications would have to submit two copies to the Information Ministry before putting them on sale to the public. Importers should also produce two

copies of publications printed abroad. Two copies each of religious publications would also have to be sent to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. The owner of any confiscated publications cannot ask for their return or for compensation.

Anyone who opens or runs a bookshop without a licence or publishes any publications without a licence faces imprisonment for up to one year and fines of up to KD2,000 or both.

Any audio or video tapes deemed to harm public morals, or are against the national interests, serve a foreign country, or touch on the social or political system of the country, can be punished by imprisonment of up to six months and a fine up to KD500 or both. Such tapes will be confiscated and the shop closed for three months or permanently. The information minister can close the shop until the prosecution or court decides to allow it to open it again.

The draft law states that any newspaper published without a licence will be seized and confiscated and the editors and printers could face imprisonment of up to two years and a fine of up to KD5,000, as well as confiscation.

The proposed law requires any editor to be competent and of good conduct, and to have no criminal record. He should not be an employee of any foreign power or belong to a non-Kuwait company. He should have been registered with the journalists association in his country for not less than five years before starting work in Kuwait if he is a non-Kuwaiti.

If there is no journalists association in his country then he should have worked for a newspaper in his country for five years before working in Kuwait, or he should have been working for Kuwaiti newspapers before the promulgation of the proposed new law. He should also be required to get a licence to work as a journalist from the Information Ministry. Those who work in a newspaper without a licence face up to a month in jail and a fine of up to KD500 or both.

The draft law says that imprisonment of up to one year and a fine of up to KD2,000 or both could be imposed on anyone who publishes items attacking or criticising the religion of the state, blaming or criticising the amir for any action of the government, inciting readers to commit murder, theft, arson, or crimes affecting state security, or who writes, paints, or uses any expression that touches on God, the Prophet Mohammed, his followers, or any aspect of the Islamic religion.

Imprisonment of up to six months and a fine of up to KD1,000 or both could be imposed on anyone publishing material inciting hatred among people and affecting national unity or disturbing public security, inciting readers to disobey the laws, or offending public morals or the dignity of people. The same penalties could be applied for publishing anything that included an insult to any Arab or Islamic president or to the courts.

These penalties would also be applied for publishing lies or forged papers with the intention of disturbing or misleading public security, or for publishing news prohibited by the government about secret official contacts or information about the Army or

security of the state. The punishment could be doubled if the offence is committed during wartime or in a state of emergency.

Imprisonment of up to three months and a fine of up to KD500 or both could be imposed on anyone publishing court cases held behind closed doors, or publishing without permission cabinet discussions, or information about closed-door meetings of the National Assembly, murder or sex crimes, or any story that could affect the value of the national currency or which might affect the local economy.

Any article or picture that might encourage adultery, or any advertisement or statement by a foreign country without first obtaining the approval of the Information Ministry would also be punishable.

The court has the right to close a newspaper for a minimum of three months if its editor-in-chief or editor is convicted and sentenced. It can also close the newspaper for six months if the offence is repeated within a year of the sentence, and the court has the power to cancel the paper's licence.

The court can also close a newspaper for up to 30 days if it finds the newspaper is serving the interests of a foreign power, or if it follows a policy that contradicts the national interests, or has obtained a donation from any foreign country without the permission of the Information Ministry.

QATAR

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Concludes 2-Day Visit

GF040708 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0658 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 4 Jan (WAKH) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, left Doha this morning after a 2-day visit to Qatar in the framework of his current tour of a number of countries in the region. Salah Khalaf was seen off by the director of the PLO office in Doha, Yasin al-Sharif.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd, Husayn Discuss Palestinian Issue

LD041028 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0920 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Jan (SPA) — Expounding on certain reports circulating about the talks which His Majesty King Husayn had during his recent visit to the Kingdom with his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, an official source stated that the visit was private and that talks concentrated on strengthening bilateral relations and on exchanging views on issues of common interest.

The source added that there had been no change in the known and declared stance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia towards the Palestinian question since the beginning of the Palestinian catastrophe. This stance is summed up in the insistence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Palestinian territories and from all Arab territories; on the Palestinian people being able to achieve their legitimate right

to return to their homeland and on their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their state on their lands.

The source said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will continue to support and back the Palestinian people in accordance with their leadership's ideas for the realization of these desires until victory.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD Criticizes U.S. Policy on Terrorism

GF040946 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 4 Jan (WAM) — In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* attacks the United States and accuses it "of trying to do whatever it wants, whenever and wherever it wants," under the cover of what it describes as fighting terrorism.

Commenting on a report carried by NBC that U.S. commando units are on alert to attack camps in Lebanon and Iran where those whom the U.S. Government regards as "terrorists" are being trained, the paper points out that the real U.S. intentions behind this relentless campaign against what it describes as "terrorism" have never been hidden. However, these intentions are now taking an unprecedentedly open and blatant form, the paper adds.

The paper says that the real target of the U.S. campaign is "we, the Arabs and Muslims, for the Americans have never spoken of 'terrorism' without inserting the name of Lebanon, Iran, Syria, or Libya so that, to some of them, the term 'terrorist' has become synonymous with 'Arab' or 'Muslim'."

The paper expresses regret because some of those who have Arab nationality or profess Islam contribute to strengthening this U.S. view. The paper emphasizes, however, that these few agents or misguided individuals will not be the target of the United States or the expected U.S. attacks. "What is the connection between nuclear submarines and plane hijackings; between laser beams and booby-trapped or suicide vehicles; or between planes and armored divisions and the perpetrators of individual assassination acts?"

In conclusion, the paper says that no matter how vague the definition of the term "terrorism" is, we can no longer remain silent on the exaggerated use of the term — a use that has become artificial, presumptuous, and insulting to the intelligence of peoples. Neither should we continue to feel ashamed of this term, and all the meanings it entails without fully pondering such meanings, for this is precisely the U.S. trap which has been set for us. Consequently, the highest degree of caution and the ability to distinguish between the word and its significance are required.

PDRY**Minister Departs for USSR; Projects To Be Financed***GF031429 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT**3 Jan 85*

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of industry, left Aden for the Soviet Union today, leading a delegation that represents the Ministries of Planning, Industry, Agriculture and Communications, the committees on oil and minerals, and the Bank of Yemen, in order to discuss the projects which the Soviet Union will finance and implement for the PDRY.

In a statement to ANA before his departure, Brother Ba Jammal said that he is carrying a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir

Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Comrade Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on developing economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

ANA has learned that during the talks a loan agreement will be signed between the Soviet Union and the PDRY, in which the Soviet Union will finance a number of projects listed in the 5-year plan for economic development.

The ministers were seen off at the airport by 'Abdallah Sa'id 'Abadan, deputy planning minister; and Ahmad 'Abd Qadir al-Salih, deputy industry minister for energy and minerals affairs.

Reportage on Visit by Jordanian Deputy Premier

Received by Mubarak

*NC031423 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] President Husni Mubarak this afternoon received Sulayman 'Arar, deputy Jordanian prime minister and interior minister, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi. 'Arar said that he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to President Mubarak containing greetings from His Majesty King Husayn and from the Jordanian people to the Egyptian people and President Mubarak. He said that the meeting dealt with all the issues that concern the area. 'Arar also reviewed the results of his discussions with Rushdi, particularly in connection with facilitating the movement of citizens between the two countries.

To a question on the assassination of [P.L.O. Executive Committee member] Fahd al-Qawasimi, he said that the security forces are currently investigating the incident and that the investigations are continuing. He said: We are aware that there are sides who are harboring these criminals and who are supporting them financially. These criminals have issued threats in the past and have carried out operations against some patriotic people. 'Arar added: We condemn terrorism and extend our hands to every country that fights terrorism and we are with any country that has exposed terrorism.

Talks With Interior Minister

NC031733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1635 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jan (MENA) — Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi and Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister held a session of talks at the Interior Ministry today. 'Arar arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 5-day official visit to Egypt.

During the session, the two ministers discussed a number of topics pertaining to security and police affairs between Egypt and Jordan. They emphasized the importance of cooperation between the security and police corps in both countries in the field of combating crimes and drug smuggling, as well as with regard to exchanging expertise. An agreement was reached during the talks according to which Egyptian and Jordanian nationals will be granted all facilities at ports and airports. The two sides also agreed to hold periodic meetings between the Egyptian and Jordanian security organs to discuss all topics that concern security in the two countries. The Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister invited Minister Ahmad Rushdi to visit Jordan.

Ahmad Rushdi held a reception in honor of the Jordanian guest. Addressing the reception, Ahmad Rushdi stressed that Arab cooperation is the sole and basic means for the Arab nation to attain its aspirations. While Arab cooperation is a firm strategy for various issues, it is also a necessity in the field of security and police affairs, because there is not a single Arab state that can isolate its internal security from the current events — changes and disputes — in the Arab area.

The interior minister reiterated Egypt's condemnation of terrorism and its aberrant ideology and bloody methods. Egypt, he added, welcomes every joint Arab action that would confront terrorism and curb its negative effects on the Arab nation's cultural image.

In a reply speech, the Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister said that relations between Egypt and Jordan have returned to normal as a result of a bold and valiant decision by His Majesty King Husayn. He added that Egypt has not changed and will never change and that it has offered tremendous sacrifices and services to the Arab nation. Egypt without the Arabs is like the Arabs without Egypt, because each is subjected to danger.

Sulayman 'Arar expressed his country's desire to promote cooperation with Egypt in the various security fields, for Arab security is indivisible. The Jordanian official pointed out that slogans and showmanship which are generating the crimes these days are slogans far from Islam and Arabism, adding that the Arab nation's enemies are the only beneficiaries. He stressed the need for beefing up cooperation with Egypt in confronting terrorism.

Received by Foreign Minister

NC031933 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid this evening received Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo and Deputy Interior Minister Major General Muhammad al-Marqi.

The foreign minister praised the noticeable development in relations between the two countries since Jordan restored its diplomatic relations with Egypt.

The two sides reviewed ways to boost relations of cooperation and coordination between the various organs in Egypt and Jordan. They also discussed ways to implement the recommendations which were made by the joint higher committee, stressing the importance of the exchange of visits between the two countries' officials on all levels for the sake of giving momentum to bilateral cooperation.

Mubarak Receives Message From Senegalese President

NC031356 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jan (MENA) — Senegalese Ambassador in Cairo Chams Eddine Ndoye said after meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo today that he handed President Mubarak a written message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf pertaining to the promotion of bilateral cooperation.

The Senegalese ambassador said that current international conditions require both African leaders to have continuous consultations on all issues and added that President Abdou Diouf's visit to Cairo will take place soon.

Mubarak To Address Message To African Symposium
NC040634 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT
 4 Jan 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak will address a message to the African people during the meeting of the International African Symposium scheduled to convene on Saturday at the international Egyptian Agriculture Center in Al-Duqqi. During the 6-day symposium, all problems facing the Horn of Africa and means of solving differences in the area will be reviewed. Specialized experts from all over the world will attend the symposium.

'Ali Views Mideast Situation, Relations
PM031147 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic
 29 Dec 84 pp 1,5

[Interview with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Sana' al-Sa'id in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Mr Prime Minister, is it possible that 1985 will witness a change in Egyptian policy course since your support for an international conference [on the Middle East] is regarded as implicit support for Soviet policy and an admission that the solution now calls for the Soviet Union's involvement? Does this mean that your view of the Soviet Union has changed and that you now look on it as a power supporting the area rather than a radical power impeding it?

Answer: First I must say that Egypt pursues firm policies and lines. However, this does not mean standing still in our policies. It means that fundamental principles, bases, and contexts do not change. With regard to the Middle East, we are aware that we have previously tried an international conference in the peace process and we know what impeded it then. We are now proceeding on the path to a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace for the whole area. If we have announced with Jordan that we favor the course of solving the Palestinian problem through an international conference, it does not mean that we have dropped the U.S. role in solving the problem. We have long been saying and repeating that the United States plays a major and principal role in solving the Palestinian problem, just like the role it played in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. But at the same time we say that we will accept an international conference if the U.S. attempts lead to no results.

Therefore, if real peace opportunities are offered and negotiations begin, each party will have its own concept, but what matters is that negotiations should first begin so as to clarify the concepts and reach a point of agreement. We should not forget that we have a quite different view from Israel regarding the implementation of the Camp David agreement. It is also different with respect to Reagan's initiative on certain matters.

Question: Does your reference to the U.S. initiative mean Reagan's initiative?

Answer: With respect to Reagan's initiative, we all know that all the parties concerned, including Egypt, do not accept it as it is.

Question: Does this mean that Reagan's initiative will be accepted if amended?

Answer: We have certain observations regarding Reagan's initiative. This initiative could succeed or become acceptable if those observations are taken into consideration in amending it. We should not forget that Israel rejected Reagan's initiative in the first place. Also we find that every party has its own views regarding the initiatives being put forward.

Question: Does your support for an international conference on the Middle East imply a change in your policies toward the United States and the Soviet Union to a degree that the positions of the two giants could be switched?

Answer: What I have just said shows that our ties with the big powers will not change. Our relations with the Soviet Union today are normal and our relations with the United States are those of strong friendship.

Question: But is the United States still a full partner despite the call for an international conference, or will the international conference make its participation in the peace process 50-50 with the Soviet Union?

Answer: As I have just said, the United States has a role to play, but if it cannot reach a solution all the parties, including the Soviet Union, should sit at the negotiating table.

Question: Your acceptance of the conference implies a lack of belief in the usefulness of direct bilateral negotiations with Israel, which rejects the idea of an international conference and calls for bilateral negotiations.

Answer: If you mean that there should be negotiations between Jordan and Israel or between the Palestinians and Israel, of course in any future negotiations the parties concerned should meet. By parties I mean Jordan, Egypt, the Palestinians, Israel, and the United States.

Question: Some people still believe that the Fes initiative is the peace initiative that is most consonant with Palestinian aspirations. In view of this can the call for its implementation be renewed?

Answer: We must take into consideration the fact that the parties to the conflict have not agreed on a single thing. For example, while Egypt and Jordan accepted Resolution 242, the PLO and Syria did not accept it.

There is no doubt that all the Arab countries agree on the Fes initiative, but this initiative lacks dynamism. What I would like to say is that there are many initiatives and they are intertwined. What is lacking is a point of agreement and meeting between the parties concerned. This comes only through negotiations.

Question: Since Egypt has accepted some kind of a new alliance with Jordan, what are the most important mainstays of this alliance and how far can it contribute to a new peace effort in 1985?

Answer: We do not establish alliances or axes. Therefore, Jordan's return to Egypt or vice versa does not mean the establishment of an alliance as much as it means the restoration of solidarity. We must look upon the return of any Arab country to Egypt or Egypt's return to any Arab country, or all the Arab countries, not as establishing alliances or axes but as a return to Arab solidarity in its true sense.

Question: With the advent of 1985 there are expectations for the convening of an Arab summit and discussion of the possibility of Egypt's return [to the Arab fold]. Do you hope, if the conference is convened, that Egypt will return to the Arab arena?

Answer: If the conference is held, this depends on the resolutions it will adopt regarding Arab solidarity. We saw at the ICO foreign ministers conference held in Sanaa this month that some Arab countries are still adopting a hardline and intransigent attitude toward Egypt. The objectives and purposes of such a stand are not understood. However, even if such stands continue and if some of the Arab countries give the excuse that a unanimous decision should be adopted on this matter.

I would say that there was no unanimous stand at the Baghdad summit in the first place, when the Arab countries boycotted Egypt, to allow them to stick to the excuse of unanimity. Sudan, Oman, and Somalia did not agree with the line adopted at the Baghdad summit. Therefore, the "excuse" of unanimity cannot be a justification for continuing with the boycott of Egypt and, consequently, for not returning it to the Arab League.

Question: In 1985 do you expect the United States to pursue a more practical policy than it has done so far in dealing with the problems of the area, particularly since it has no clear policy in the area and all it does is react to events.

Answer: It is clear that so far the United States has not succeeded in solving the Middle East problem. This is a clear fact. For this reason we hope that in the new year the United States will adopt a sound and successful plan for a solution. But in the meantime we must not put all the blame on the United States alone. The first to blame is Israel and then the Arab countries. We are precise in this respect and ask everyone to shoulder the responsibility of his policy.

Question: With respect to Egyptian-Israeli relations, it was reported recently that Egypt has no objection to the stationing of a multinational force unit in Tabah until an agreement on what is to be done with it is reached at the talks that will be held between the two countries later. I wonder: Does this not encroach on Egyptian sovereignty over Tabah, which is in fact Egyptian territory?

Answer: The question of the presence of a multinational force unit in Tabah means that this land is definitely not Israeli. It does not constitute a violation of Egyptian sovereignty. Also it does not mean the presence of a force similar to that of the peace force in Sinai or in the Israeli territory adjacent to the Egyptian-Israeli borders.

The purpose behind stationing a multinational force unit in Tabah is to prevent the stationing of an Israeli police force there

and to establish a status quo. It would check the possibility of Israel imposing a status quo policy. The multinational force unit's presence definitely curbs the Israeli presence until discussions regarding Tabah begin.

Question: But is there really an intention to improve relations with Israel, which has recently announced its intention to build more new settlements in the West Bank?

Answer: If Israel actually begins building any new settlements this would constitute a new trend by the Israeli Government that is quite opposite and contrary to the good intentions that Israel must show as a precondition for improving relations with it, particularly since positive moves have begun to be made in the area and in Israel itself, positive moves which should be built upon.

Question: Some Arab politicians are inclined to believe that the present shape of the Israeli Government almost robs it of the freedom to make actual moves in the peace process in the area. Do you agree with this view and do you see Shim'on Peres being in a position enabling him to make decisions?

Answer: There is no doubt that the Labor Party is facing difficulties despite its majority. While on many occasions we find what Shim'on Peres says about the future of negotiations and peace to be very encouraging, on the other hand Shamir's statements are quite contrary and opposed to Peres' statements. I also wonder to what extent Peres can succeed in imposing his stated policy and putting it into effect. I believe that in order to be able to answer this question, we must wait and see what these stands will lead to in the end.

Question: Regardless of the increasing campaigns of criticism against you by Syria, what is your view regarding the Syrian stand in the area in relation to the peace process, and can Syria be ignored as one of the principal countries holding the key to any peaceful progress in the area?

Answer: With respect to the Lebanese problem, we find that the Syrian stand concentrates on one single point, which is that Israel must withdraw from Lebanon and nothing else. If we were to ask how practical this stand is, the answer would be that this depends on the Lebanese parties. On the other hand, with respect to the Middle East problem, we find that Syria has not raised the question of the Golan at all in any kind of negotiations. Or is Syria waiting to sit down with Israel to settle this problem?

Question: Statements made by officials here used to express support for Iraq, which has accepted peaceful initiatives in order to stop the bloodshed in the Iraq-Iran war. One is bound to wonder about the reason for the disappearance of the strong statements of support for Iraq. Has there been any change that has forced us to adopt a neutral stand at a time when it is Iran that is intransigent and rejecting every peaceful initiative so far?

Answer: It is not a question of neutrality. We are actually calling for halting the Iraq-Iran war. As you know, Egypt is not working alone in this field; it is acting through international organizations, including the nonaligned states and the ICO. These countries have their own views and actions regarding this

problem. We cannot act individually by continually supporting one side against the other.

'Abd al-Majid to Visit UK, U.S. in February

NC031940 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will make an official visit to Britain during the first week of February. During the visit he will hold talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and senior British officials on questions of mutual interest to both countries, foremost being the Middle East situation and Europe's role in activating the peace efforts. They will also discuss Anglo-Egyptian relations and ways to bolster them in various fields.

At the end of his 3-day visit to Britain, the foreign minister will go to the United States for a working visit. During the visit he will meet with Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. officials and hold talks aimed at giving momentum to the peace efforts in the area to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis.

Ghali on Peace Efforts, Israeli Attitude

PM041140 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
3 Jan 84 pp 1,3

[Unattributed report on interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that the Arabs should get together and address the United States on peace in the Middle East with one voice instead of speaking separately, particularly since many Arab states enjoy good relations with the United States.

In an exclusive interview with *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, the Egyptian minister said that the ruling Israeli coalition structure almost totally paralyzes Israel and prevents it from responding to peace calls and efforts.

Dr Ghali said that the most prominent aspect of the Middle East problem at this stage is what is happening in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since June 1967. The policies of coercion, collective punishment, and the violation of human rights and the Geneva agreements are rejected not only on humanitarian grounds, but also because they are based on a clear political design aimed at destroying the Palestinian character of these territories and actually annexing them in a creeping and gradual manner, Dr Ghali said.

He added that this Israeli policy is a threat to the future of the occupied territories and, consequently, a threat to peace itself, because the main idea in the peace process is the idea contained in UN Security Council Resolution 242 of 22 November, 1967. That idea is that Israel would get peace in return for giving up the Arab territories it occupies. If Israel blocks the return of the Arab territories what chance is left for peace? We believe that if the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East conflict,

then the situation in the occupied territories today is the core of the Palestinian question.

The course Egyptian efforts will take following U.S. reservations regarding the idea of an international conference was described by Ghali as: more contacts and negotiations with the U.S. Administration to bring about a successful solution to the problem, which is extremely complex. We cannot find solutions in just one or even ten sessions.

On what is currently being said about the need for mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, he said that if the two sides meet and reach agreement there would be no problem regarding the question of holding an international conference. The fact is, he said, that the main obstacle preventing a settlement is Israel's rejection of the idea of recognizing or talking to the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people and their hopes and aspirations, and also the PLO's refusal to recognize Israel.

Further on Ghali Interview

NC031101 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, Egypt's state minister for foreign affairs, said that the Arabs should coordinate and speak as one voice to the United States about peace in the Middle East, instead of talking as individual countries, particularly now that many Arab countries are on good terms with the United States.

In an interview published today by the Saudi paper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, the state minister said that close coordination and consultation among Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO is instrumental in crystallizing the march for comprehensive peace.

The International Conference on the Middle East, Ghali said, is, in our opinion, only one way in which to achieve this. It does not rule out alternative ways. Egyptian diplomacy, he asserted, concentrates on goals and does not shift away from them.

Syria, the state minister said, is an important factor in the Middle East peace equation and must sooner or later join the peace process and say its piece. There must be some concept for a just solution of the Palestinian problem and for the return of the Golan and there must be some sign that the peace talks can be successful so that the brother Syrians may be encouraged to join the peace talks, Dr Ghali said.

Israel's ruling coalition has stopped moving toward peace, he said and added: We have heard some positive statements by Israel's Labor Party members, but none of them have materialized.

Speaking about Egypt's foreign policy, the state minister said that we shall be working for Arab solidarity to replace the schisms and squabbles. Egypt will also cement cooperation with brotherly African countries and will try to break the stalemate of last year in the Nonaligned Movement.

On Egypt's stand on current Arab efforts to convene an Arab summit conference, Ghali said that Egypt welcomes every Arab meeting that would help close Arab ranks and enhance Arab

solidarity, but the matter is left to those Arab countries taking part, if such a conference is convened.

Ambassador Comments on Meeting With George Bush

NC031957 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Washington, 3 Jan (MENA) — U.S. Vice President George Bush today received Egyptian Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Ridi. The ambassador made a statement following the meeting in which he said that President Reagan, the vice president, and the U.S. Administration are looking forward to President Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington which is scheduled for March. He added that the talks during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the current situation in the Middle East and the international state of affairs.

The meeting was attended by senior officials in the White House and State Department in charge of Middle Eastern affairs.

Jordanian Workers Delegation Ends Visit to Cairo

NC031922 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The Egyptian workers trade unions general federation and the Jordanian workers trade unions general federation, in a joint statement issued today, underlined the need to convene an Arab summit conference as soon as possible and for Egypt to take a strong position at the side of its Arab sisters and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The two fraternal federations called for an end to the Iraq-Iran war whose continuation will only serve the enemies of our Arab and Islamic nation. The statement urged the Arab people in Lebanon to stop the dialogue of guns and to resume the dialogue of words in order to unify Lebanon and safeguard its independence and Arabism.

At the end of the visit made by the Jordanian workers' delegation to Egypt, the Egyptian and Jordanian federations agreed to bolster workers' cooperation between the two countries by holding joint educational courses.

Accredited Banks To Buy, Sell Foreign Currency

NC031643 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Jan (MENA) — It has been decided to allow the banking system to buy and sell foreign currency with flexible daily exchange rates as of Saturday and to use the proceeds for meeting the needs of the public and private sectors.

This was announced by Mustafa al-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, at a news conference today.

He said that it has been decided to allow all accredited private and public banks to locally deal with foreign currency, provided that the proceeds are primarily used to finance the requirements of the private sector.

Dr al-Sa'id said that all accredited private and public banks will be allowed, under the new economic decisions, to purchase foreign currency from abroad, particularly from Egyptians who are working there, provided the proceeds are placed at the disposal of the Central Bank.

This bank will distribute them according to the objectives of the country's economic policy and provide the foreign cash necessary for the currency budget.

The economy minister said that the daily foreign currency rate will be fixed by a committee which will underline the authority and supervision of the Central Bank. The committee will also have representatives from the private and public sectors in the banking system and also officials from the Economy Ministry.

Communique Details 2-3 Jan War Operations

JN031713 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Communique No 1700 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 3 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With relentless determination and splendid steadfastness, our valiant Armed Forces are dealing further blows to the collapsing Khomeyniite remnants. The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. Some of our brave artillery units delivered violent, concentrated blows to groups of enemy personnel and several enemy positions opposite our forward positions in the Maysan sector, scoring very effective hits and inflicting large losses in personnel and equipment. In the same sector, one of our units completely destroyed a medium machine gun emplacement, one observation post, and one vehicle, killing their personnel.

2. Our forward units fired on several enemy positions, troops, and vehicles in the operational sector east of Basra, killing one troop, hitting several vehicles, and inflicting serious damage on fortified targets. Fires were seen gutting them.

3. One was killed in the central sector of the operational theater.

4. This afternoon the criminal enemy shelled Basra's environs with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 January 1985

'Criminals' Interviewed on Baghdad Explosions

JN031900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (INA) — Three criminals who participated in the explosion incident in the center of Baghdad early last month have admitted their ties to the Iranian regime and with Syrian intelligence.

In confessions aired by Baghdad television tonight, 'Ali 'Abdallah Shamakhi, Mahdi Salih 'Ali, and Jum'ah Muhammad 'Aziz said that they carried out the explosion operation in front of the free market building on 12 December 1984 on the instructions of the Iranian authorities and in full coordination with Syrian intelligence. This incident led to the martyrdom of two

children and one female university student and to the injury of a number of other citizens. They added that they carried out two other operations to blow up the Egyptian airline office and a main square in Basra, southern Iraq, but the two operations failed.

Criminal 'Ali 'Abdallah Shamakhi admitted that he had planned all these operations, which were aimed at terrorizing the citizens. He said he received instructions in this regard from the Iranian regime and obtained detonating devices from Major 'Abd al-Rahman Mustafa of Syrian intelligence via Al-Qamishli on the Iraqi-Syrian border. He added that he carried out the explosion operation in the Egyptian airline office on 29 November 1984 and another explosion in the Umm al-Burum Square in Basra Governorate. He said that he did not know why the two operations failed.

The second criminal, Mahdi Salih 'Ali, supported his partner's testimony and confessed to traveling to Syria illegally and to meeting with Maj 'Abd al-Rahman Mustafa in Al-Qamishli on the northwestern border after exchanging passwords. He added: The intelligence officer welcomed me and provided me with explosives which I carried back to Iraq.

The third criminal, Mahdi Salih 'Ali [as received], said that he and Jum'ah Muhammad 'Aziz studied the scene of the incident. They were instructed to carry out the operation inside the free market building on Al-Sa'dun Street in order to inflict as many losses as possible. However, they could not do that and were forced to place the detonation device in front of the building and watched it explode before they went away. He added that he took part in the two abortive operations with Jum'ah Muhammad 'Aziz upon the directives and planning of the Iranian authorities and in full coordination with Syrian intelligence.

YAR Minister Concludes Visit, Departs for Amman

JN031437 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (INA) — 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr, YAR minister of state and chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and his delegation left Baghdad for Amman this afternoon following a 3-day visit to Iraq. During the visit Al-Bahr conveyed a written message from YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and issues of common concern. The delegation also held talks with the Iraqi side on areas of bilateral cooperation in the field of oil.

King Husayn Discusses Joint Actions With 'Arafat

*JN031524 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
3 Jan 84*

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Al-Nadwah Palace today. During a working luncheon the two sides discussed the steps of joint Jordanian-Palestinian action.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the court minister; Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister; General Tariq 'Ala' al-Din, chief of general intelligence; and Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

On the Palestinian side the meeting was attended by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih; PLO Executive Committee members Faruq al-Qaddumi, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, Jawid al-Ghusayn, Muhammad Milhim, 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, and Bishop Iliya Khuri; and Fatah Central Committee members Khalil al-Wazir and Hani al-Hasan.

'Arafat Makes Statement, Departs

*JN041231 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Amman this afternoon after a 1 week visit to Jordan. During the visit, 'Arafat met with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials, participated in the funeral of martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member and deported Hebron Mayor, and headed two meetings of the PLO Executive Committee.

In a statement to the PETRA correspondent, 'Arafat said his talks with King Husayn dealt with Jordanian-Palestinian subjects, the situation of the kinfolk in the occupied territory, and ways to support them. The talks also dealt with the current Arab situation and the need to reinforce Arab solidarity and to hasten the convening of the Arab summit. He said that the viewpoints were, as usual, identical concerning the presented political issues.

Answering a question about the meeting between the Soviet and U.S. foreign ministers, 'Arafat said: It is natural that the two superpowers reach an agreement, because not reaching an agreement means a universal conflagration. He expressed optimism over this meeting, because the Soviet stand toward the Middle East stems from a Soviet commitment to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and from the Soviet initiative calling for an international conference in which all competent parties, including the PLO, participate.

'Arafat was seen off by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; Deputy Chief of Protocol Aktham al-Qusus; PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya; Najib al-Ahmad, PLO office director; and Lieutenant Colonel Abu al-Tayyib, Force 17 commander.

Jawid al-Ghusayn, PLO Executive Committee member, and Nabil 'Amr, Fatah Revolutionary Council member, left with Yasir 'Arafat.

Italy's Andreotti, Delegation Arrive 4 Jan

*JN041248 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Text] Amman — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, his wife, and a delegation from the Italian Foreign Ministry arrived in Amman at noon today on a 2-day official visit to Jordan. Andreotti will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials.

Andreotti's talks in Amman will deal with ways to reinforce Jordanian-Italian relations and with the latest developments in the Middle East cause.

Those who received the Italian minister and his delegation at Amman Airport were Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and his wife; Raja'i al-Dajani, Royal Hashemite Court secretary general; the Foreign Ministry secretary general; the Jordanian Ambassador to Italy Tariq Madi; a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry; the EEC ambassadors in Amman; the Italian ambassador; and the Italian Embassy staff.

The Italian delegation consists of the director of the minister's office, the secretary general of the political affairs department, the chief of the press office, the chief of protocol, the head of the Middle East desk, and a number of officials.

Foreign Minister Confers With PLO's Qaddumi

*JN031400 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, today. They discussed Jordanian-Palestinian relations within the framework of the Jordanian-Palestinian formula for joint action presented by His Majesty King Husayn in the opening speech at the 17th PNC session in Amman.

The meeting was attended by PLO Executive Committee members Brigadier General 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya and 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad.

Crown Prince Hasan Receives PRC Delegation

*JN031931 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan has received in his office an economic delegation from Fujian Province led by Zhang Yi, vice governor of the Fujian Provincial People's Government.

They discussed economic and technical cooperation between Jordan and the PRC and ways to promote it. The PRC ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

'Ubaydat Addresses House of Representatives Session

JN031907 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In a statement today, the House of Representatives denounced the assassination of martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member and deported Hebron mayor, which took place last Saturday. The House also condemned the criminal killing of Iraqi POW's in Iranian jails.

This came in the session the House of Representatives held this morning under Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz in the presence of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers. During this session the House approved the general budget draft law for 1985. The session began by observing 1-minute silence in honor of martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi.

Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat delivered a speech in which he thanked the representatives for their sense of responsibility during the debate. He said: Our pan-Arab security and national defense are closely linked with our dignity and future life. He said that these are basic pillars and indisputable axioms in steadfast Jordan.

'Ubaydat added that the Arab aid to Jordan is an obligation approved by the Arab summits. He said that this aid is why we committed ourselves to financial contracts and obligations to supply our Armed Forces with arms. He said that our forces are stationing on the longest line to defend the Arab nation. He added that this is a firm fact that must be known to every Arab in this dear homeland.

Regarding the situation in the occupied homeland, Prime Minister 'Ubaydat said: I share your opinions and the opinion of every citizen under occupation in the occupied homeland. He said: We appeal to our brothers in the Arab countries to be fully aware of the situation in the occupied homeland, because this situation is connected with their future and security as much as it is connected with ours, and basically it is connected with this nation's dignity, existence, and destiny. Regarding development plans, Prime Minister 'Ubaydat said: As you know, the development plan usually includes several measures, policies, and projects that lead to agreed development objectives. He said that the measures and policies are adopted year after year in accordance with our needs and in the service of the public interests.

Further on 'Ubaydat Speech

JN041134 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
4 Jan 85 p 8

["Text" of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat's speech at the House of Representatives on 3 January]

[Excerpts] At the beginning of my speech, I would like to thank on my behalf, and on behalf of my colleagues the ministers, the financial committee which prepared the report [on the general budget] with objectivity and honesty and expressed a deep sense of responsibility and accuracy in following up facts and realizing their effect on our life and future.

Regarding the West Bank and remarks by representatives to this effect, I would like to point out that the Occupied Territories Ministry drew up a number of programs, not plans, for supporting steadfastness in the occupied territories. These programs constitute a development plan in the West Bank. The Occupied Territories Ministry and other competent ministries will draw up a 5-year development plan for the West Bank. This subject will be taken into consideration in the 5-year development plan for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This subject is being studied. I do not want to talk in detail about it because I do not have the figures. I also do not want to promise what cannot be achieved.

A ministerial committee has recently been formed to handle the subject of maintaining employment cadres in the West Bank and of appointing efficient employees to replace those who are relieved, retired, or quit as well as to fill vacancies.

Regarding the employees who were appointed after 1967, you know that their salaries are paid by the occupation authorities. These salaries are linked to the cost of living index. The figures I have read indicate that the salaries of employees in the West Bank are 10-15 per cent less than similar salaries in the East Bank.

The government pays special attention to unemployment among new graduates in the West Bank. There is a need to employ 1,000-1,500 persons in the Education Ministry in the East Bank, taking into consideration the means by which they maintain their existence with their families in the West Bank while assuming their national duty in the East Bank. Thus, we guarantee some financial support for their families in the West Bank and guarantee their return at scheduled times.

So far, 400 of those graduates have been appointed. Regrettably, 150 of the 400 graduates have not yet assumed their posts and are staying in the East Bank. If these people do not assume their posts, they will be returned to the West Bank, because there will be no benefit to them living here without work.

Brothers, the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee does not deal with the citizens in the occupied territories directly, but through the banks in the East Bank; the Industrial Development Bank, for example, offers loans for industries in the occupied territories, the Housing Bank runs the housing loans, and the Cooperative Bank runs agricultural loans in accordance with authorized and known bases. Payment of these loans is in full progress. Ninety-five percent of the loans have been paid. Action is being taken against those who do not repay their loans.

The surplus of agricultural and industrial production in the West Bank is moved to the East Bank markets or to some Arab markets through the East Bank.

The West Bank local councils have obtained ten times their normal fuel shares. These councils will again obtain their shares after repaying these loans. The steps that will be taken here to improve the situation of the local councils will also be applied in the West Bank. Concluding, I would like to say that during 1984, 250,000 dinars were spent to develop and improve the Al-Husayn Hospital in Bayt Jala.

Second Installment of Kuwaiti Aid Received

JN031431 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — Finance Ministry Under Secretary Dr 'Abd al-Majid al-Qasim has said that the Jordanian Government has received the second installment of Arab aid from fraternal Kuwait for 1984 as part of the Arab aid allocated for Jordan according to the Baghdad Arab summit resolutions.

Finance Ministry on Agreement with TAPLINE

JN031310 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 3 Jan 85 p 8

[Text] Amman — The Finance Ministry's reply to the question put by Layth Shubaylat, member of the House of Representatives, concerning the new agreement with the TAPLINE Company explains that the agreement is no more than an amendment of the first agreement which was signed with the company in 1960.

The reply says that the agreement takes into consideration the changes that have taken place in the region, especially in 1975, when exporting crude oil via TAPLINE's oil pipeline stopped completely, except for intermittently supplying the Lebanese Al-Zahrani refinery at the rate of only 10 percent of the pipeline's full capacity. Thus the company's work was confined to ensuring Jordan's requirements of crude oil in a regular manner.

These changes resulted in great losses for the company during the period 1975-1983. In view of the impossibility of resuming exportation from Lebanon, TAPLINE decided to surrender its rights in the countries transmitted by the company's oil pipeline in accordance with the pertinent provisions in the agreements signed with those countries. Thus, the company sent letters of surrender to Syria and Lebanon, informing them that the rights devolving from the agreements concluded with them would end as of 31 December 1983.

In order to maintain the continuous supply of crude oil to the Kingdom from Saudi Arabia via this pipeline, which is considered as the only source, the government requested the TAPLINE administration to reassess the situation and to take the necessary measures to ensure the continuous flow of oil through this pipeline, provided that the new arrangements do not result in any material profits or losses for TAPLINE.

The reply reviews the stages that led to the signing of the new agreement. It says that the two sides held several meetings which resulted in the following:

TAPLINE undertakes to continue to operate the oil pipeline in order to ensure the supply of crude oil to Jordan in return for an undertaking by Jordan that it will pay all the direct and indirect costs and expenses borne by TAPLINE in operating the pipeline for this purpose (since Jordan is the only beneficiary from this operation) and that it will pay the price of the crude oil it receives in accordance with the provisions of the agreement.

The price of crude supplied under the agreement is the same as the price per barrel determined by OPEC. Payment for the quantities of crude oil supplied under the new agreement shall be due 45 days from the end of the month in which the delivery of oil takes place.

The Jordanian Government has the right to check the pipeline and all TAPLINE utilities and accounts at any suitable time. The new agreement shall go into effect as of 1 July 1984, and shall remain valid until it is terminated by either side by giving 2 years written notification to the other side, and provided that it does not take place before 1 October 1985.

The reply sums up the results of the new conditions under the agreement as follows:

Continuous flow of oil from a guaranteed, main source that reassures the producer and the consumer about the stability of the prices of industrial and agricultural products and the continuation of economic projects now and in the future;

The supply of a specific type of crude that is suitable for the oil refinery's machinery and equipment, instead of types with different specifications and densities;

An increase in the cost of pumping crude oil from \$0.40 to more than \$1.25 per barrel, since the government will bear the actual costs of operating the pipeline. This depends on the quantity of crude oil supplied.

If the agreement had not been signed and oil was imported from other sources and through other channels, the government would have been faced with one of two options:

Either to import oil by sea and this would have meant: building facilities in Aqaba whose costs would have far exceeded the increase resulting from the new amendment; paying sea freight and transportation charges from Aqaba to the refinery in Al-Zarqa; shouldering damage resulting from transportation by road; and the possible difference in the conditions of paying the price of crude oil.

Or to import oil by land and this would have meant: paying land transportation charges which would have far exceeded the increase resulting from the new amendment; expending large sums of money to purchase machinery and equipment; shouldering the damage resulting from land transportation; shouldering the possible difference in the conditions for paying the price of crude oil.

The Saudi Oil Refinery in Al-Qasim and the Possibility of Using It in Supplying the Pipeline

The information available indicates that Saudi Arabia is still studying the possibility of building this refinery in Al-Qasim. It has also not yet determined whether the refinery will obtain its crude oil from the TAPLINE or Yanbu' oil pipeline. Therefore, it is not possible to prejudge what the status of that refinery will be.

Swiss Charge d'Affaires Kidnapped in W. Beirut

*NC031730 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1723 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] We have just received a report that gunmen this afternoon kidnapped Swiss Charge d'Affaires (Eric Willi) while on his way from the Embassy building to his house in the Zuqaq al-Balat area in West Beirut. He was driving his vehicle, which bears a diplomatic licenseplate.

Upon hearing the news, the president of the republic held contacts with the security commanders and asked them to find out where he is and bring about his release immediately. President al-Jumayyil also contacted political and party leaders in West Beirut to help in the search for him.

Mitterrand, Al-Jumayyil Discuss Developments

*NC031930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening received a telephone call from French President Francois Mitterrand in which he extended his greetings to President al-Jumayyil on the occasion of Christmas and the New Year. The telephone call provided an opportunity for the two presidents to hold a quick review of the current issues, including the Lebanese-Israeli military talks in Al-Naqurah and the situation in Lebanon. The two agreed to continue their consultations to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries and to deal with the current situation in the area.

Reportage on Coastal Security Plan Implementation**'New Obstacles' Reported**

*NC031415 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic
1330 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Text] The security plan for the coastal area and Iqlim al-Kharrub faced new obstacles today shortly before the zero hour for implementation of its first stage, which provides for the deployment of the Internal Security Forces in specified areas. Each party is blaming the other for these obstacles. The contacts and meetings which have been going on since this morning among the parties, particularly within the framework of the Joint Liaison Committee, have not succeeded yet in removing the obstacles.

Meanwhile, some of the Iqlim al-Kharrub areas have witnessed limited tension. Intermittent shooting and shelling took place on the Barja, B'asir, Tallat al-Zarut, Al-Jiyah, and Al-Sa'diyat lines.

Al-Kharrub Liaison Committee Meets

*NC031912 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] The Junblatt followers' objection to the deployment of the Internal Security Forces in Bsaba, 'Ayn al-Hawr, and Tallat al-Marj in accordance with the provisions of the security plan

prevented the dispatch of an Internal Security Force to Iqlim al-Kharrub.

In order to deal with this problem, the Iqlim al-Kharrub Liaison Committee held two meetings today in the presence of representatives of all the parties. The committee ended its second meeting at 1700 today without reaching a decisive conclusion. The committee will meet again tomorrow at 0830.

Amal Walks Out

*NC041310 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Text] The Joint Liaison Committee met today to discuss the deployment of the Internal Security Forces in Iqlim al-Kharrub. Our correspondent reports that the discussions were sharp. At noon, the two representatives of the Amal movement walked out of the meeting because of lack of agreement on a final formula. Amal Representative Ayyub Humayid informed the committee that he was refusing to attend further meetings.

Our correspondent adds that the Socialists rejected the deployment of the Security Forces on the roads of Al-Mtullah, Bsaba, 'Ayn al-Hawr, Darayya, Al-Burjain, and Barja. Colonel 'Abd al-Karim Ibrahim, commander of the Security Forces, told the committee: We are not a disengagement or a peace-keeping force. We are present with the consent of all parties. He then submitted an alternative plan, which was rejected.

Dr Jean Ghanim, representative of the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces on the Liaison Committee, held the Socialists responsible for the committee's failure to agree on a plan for deploying the Internal Security Forces, defining the areas of their deployment, and giving them the green light to begin their mission. He said: Following the successive meetings we have held, it seems to us that the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has red lines which it is imposing. Proof of this is the PSP insistence on restricting the role of the Internal Security Forces vis-a-vis the areas of their deployment and its intransigence in rejecting the establishment of fixed positions for the Security Forces on some important roads between feuding villages. Dr Ghanim added: In view of this rejection, we affirm our clear stand of the need to establish fixed positions for the Security Forces on the roads between villages that have witnessed military operations. This is necessary in order to stabilize the cease-fire, consolidate confidence among the inhabitants of these villages, reopen the closed roads, and encourage reconciliation among the inhabitants.

Army Mountain Positions Come Under Fire

*NC031755 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] The army and disengagement forces positions in Dahr al-Wahsh and 'Arayya came under intermittent artillery and rocket fire at 1730 today from 'Alayh and Duhur al-'Ibadiyah. The shelling soon intensified and expanded to cover Al-Kahhalah where a number of shells fell. At 1815, the intensity of the shelling began to ease.

Our correspondent reported that Junblatt gunmen also used tank guns, causing material damage in the areas which were shelled. Two people were also wounded in Al-Kahhalah.

The Junblatt gunmen's sniper fire on the (Al-Risani)-Kafr Shima-Al-Shuwayfat line killed Chief Warrant Officer Hasan Nu'aym. The gunmen abided by a cease-fire declared at 1855.

Sit-in Suspended at Beirut Crossing Points

*NC031442 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] In implementation of yesterday's Cabinet decision, Major General Hisham Quraytim, chairman of the kidnapped and missing persons fact-finding committee, chaired a meeting at 1300 today attended by the committee members and representatives of the relatives of the kidnapped in Lebanon and representatives of the Lebanese Forces and the Amal movement. Following a discussion of the practical, executive measures to solve the problem of the kidnapped in a concrete way and as an expression of the goodwill shown by the attending parties, the representatives of the relatives of the kidnapped persons have agreed to suspend their sit-in strike at the crossing points as of today. Agreement was reached to hold a meeting on Saturday in the new headquarters of the committee in the Health Ministry building. It will be attended by representatives of the parties who will be members of the executive committee which the Cabinet decided to form yesterday.

On emerging from his office in government house this afternoon, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said in reply to a question that he expects the crossing points to be opened today.

Asked whether the security forces went to Iqlim al-Kharrub today, Prime Minister Karami said: They went, but they have not been deployed.

The crossing points will be opened after the mothers of the kidnapped persons are informed of the provisions of the agreement reached a short while ago.

Beirut Roads Reopened

*NC040630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] All the roads in Beirut, which were closed for 6 days by the relatives of the kidnapped and missing persons, were reopened yesterday afternoon.

Soviet Red Cross Delegation Meets Birri

*NC031806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri today received a Soviet medical delegation comprising representatives of the Soviet Red Cross and the Soviet Peace Fund. Dr Qahtan 'Alawiyah and 'Ali al-Husayni, members of the Amal movement Political Bureau, attended the meeting.

The delegation expressed its readiness to extend medical assistance to Lebanon and conveyed the Soviet leadership's support of Lebanon's independence and unity. Minister Birri explained to the delegation the suffering experienced by the people in the south, saying that the occupation forces have prevented even the arrival of medicine in the south.

It is known that the Soviet delegation is making an inspection tour of Lebanon at the invitation of the Amal movement and Progressive Socialist Party health departments and the Popular Help organization.

The delegation will call on Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Education and Labor Minister Dr Salim al-Huss tomorrow. The delegation will then tour Beirut's southern suburb, the mountain, and the south.

Resistance Attacks Israeli Position with Katyushas

*NC041454 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] According to information received by the Amal movement bureau from the south, the Jihad al-'Amili group of the national resistance front shelled an Israeli forces concentration point near the Al-Qasimiyah bridge at 0930 today, using Katyusha rockets and 107-mm guns. The rockets scored direct hits on their targets.

The Israeli occupation forces then combed the area with heavy weapons. Two helicopters were seen flying in the area to evacuate the casualties.

Rabin on Al-Naqurah Talks, Territorial Brigade

TA031827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today visited wounded soldiers in Rambam Hospital. Reporter Vivien Royston asked him about the prospects for the Al-Naqurah talks, due to be resumed on Monday.

[Begin recording][Rabin] Judging by what I know now, I believe that it doesn't look very good that the Lebanese will respond positively to our demand.

[Royston] If the Lebanese Army manage to deploy on the coastal road down to the Al-Awwali, do you feel that this will mean that they'll have a card in their hand, that [they will think] we've been able to deploy this far, therefore we do have the ability to deploy south of the Al-Awwali?

[Rabin] First, let's see the Lebanese Army deploying along the sea road. I don't know, and I wouldn't judge by the decision of the Cabinet to deploy, because they have done it four times before and nothing happened.

[Royston] The Lebanese are demanding the disbandment of the south Lebanese army as one of their requirements. If they demand this, will the talks stop in Al-Naqurah?

[Rabin] We didn't make it a condition now. Of course we are for the continued presence of the army of southern Lebanon. We were ready also to look at it as a territorial brigade, to be integrated gradually, by agreement, into the Lebanese Army, the way it is envisaged in the May 17 Agreement. [end recording]

Rabin Pessimistic on Talks

TA031907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] We hoped you would lead us out of here, the soldiers guarding the defense minister during a tour of Lebanon today told him. Our correspondent Haviva Roger heard his answer to this, following Rabin's visit to Haifa's Rambam Hospital:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] In general, I believe we will leave Lebanon. Specifically, as everyone knows, the Cabinet decided to give the political process a chance. In the Al-Naqurah talks, we explained very clearly that we expect a substantive and significant answer — from our point of view — from the Lebanese next Monday during our meeting. Although I believe the chances of receiving the answer we want are not too good, we will wait for an answer. And if it turns out as we anticipate, the Cabinet will have to consider whether there is any point in continuing the process, because if not, it will be necessary to make a unilateral decision about what to do. I am not in the habit of saying before the Cabinet session that is scheduled to discuss the matter what I will propose there. The Cabinet has already decided that the Lebanese answer on Monday will determine whether we will consider if there is any point in continuing the talks. Beyond this, the Cabinet has reached no decision.

[Roger] Either way, no matter what arrangement is reached, Rabin says it will be impossible to guarantee that the Galilee will be free of Katyushas. Even now there have already been 14 attempts to launch Katyushas.

The minister, who visited the Lebanon casualties, also addressed the many terrorist attacks that have recently occurred in southern Lebanon:

[Rabin] I will not deny that the IDF is constantly facing attempted attacks in southern Lebanon. For some months now, 6 or 9 months — but particularly in the past 6 months — most of these attacks have been carried out by the Shi'ites. I would say that the average number of attacks last year, despite the ups and downs, has unfortunately been more or less stable. The number of casualties changes, and it is a matter of good or bad luck whether an attack is foiled, or if it causes any harm.

Sees Solution by End of 1985

TA040744 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] A return home from Lebanon may take place within 1 year — at least this is how Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin sees it. He also feels the need to find a solution for the situation in Lebanon within 1 year. He made these remarks during a tour of the eastern sector of southern Lebanon yesterday. The minister was briefed about the situation in the area and later met with IDF commanders of various sectors. Gay Zohar was there.

[Begin recording][Zohar] In a tent in one of the IDF units, while rain was pouring outside, the defense minister yesterday heard from commanders in the eastern sector about the problems bothering them: budget cuts, manpower problems, and, of course, all the questions pertaining to Lebanon. It should be pointed out that in addition to expressing the general desire to return home, most speakers noted the morale of the troops and the effectiveness of the area in everything pertaining to training and drilling in daily security duties.

In his remarks, Minister Rabin defined the two goals of the IDF as he presently perceives them: bringing the IDF back home and providing reasonable security for the northern border — reasonable, but not ideal security. I am to blame for Al-Naqurah [as heard], Yitzhaq Rabin stated, and reiterated that both these goals can only be fully attained through an agreement. The minister took pains not to pin hopes on progress in the Al-Naqurah talks and raised the possibility that the government might be called upon to decide on a unilateral move.

[Rabin] I believe that we will have to find a solution which will not necessarily include and provide a good answer to the two goals of reasonable security and bringing the IDF back home. This may also be a gradual process in which we will be called upon to contemplate different kinds of hypotheses, be they pessimistic or optimistic, on what will happen when we effect a unilateral move.

[Zohar] This may be a gradual process, the defense minister said, but he nevertheless mentioned a date to the officers serving in Lebanon.

[Rabin] I, for one, see the need to strive for and attain a solution — whatever solution we decide to implement — within not too long a period of time of several months; a given number of months, but by the end of 1985. [end recording]

Basyuni Interviewed on Tabah, Relations

TA031701 Tel Aviv BAMAHAHE in Hebrew 2 Jan 85

pp 10, 11, 49

[Interview with Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni by 'Eran Shenkar "in English" and translated by BAMAHAHE into Hebrew, "this week" — place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] During your stay in Israel, you have succeeded in forming various ties with many people, some of whom have become your personal friends. Does this prove that you are comfortable here?

[Answer] Yes. Of course I have friends here. Every diplomat should make friendships and form friendly ties with the people with whom he works or meets. This is particularly true for a diplomat who has come here after 34 years of war and represents the first Arab country to maintain peaceful relations with Israel.

[Question] What are the main objectives you want to achieve?

[Answer] The main objective is to improve relations between Israel and Egypt and to find a way to fulfill the second part of the Camp David agreement. The second objective is to try to achieve peace agreements between Israel and the other Arab countries. To the best of my knowledge, peace with Egypt alone is insufficient. It will be a weak peace, or, as you are in the habit of calling it, a "cold peace" (Basyuni can express himself in hesitant Hebrew, 'E.S.). We must try to obtain a comprehensive and just peace, and this is the objective I would like to achieve. In my view, the chances for coexistence between Israel and the Arab nations are currently good.

[Question] As a former military man, were you able to understand Israel's considerations in embarking on the Peace for Galilee war and making its withdrawal from there dependent on the guaranteeing of suitable arrangements?

[Answer] Do not forget that Egypt is an Arab country. We cannot accept Israel's presence on Arab land, especially when there is a peace agreement between us. We believe that Israel should withdraw from Lebanon to the international border, not to some interim lines. As long as Israel is holding on to one single centimeter in Lebanon, it should understand that the current problems over the deployment along the Al-Awwali lines will continue. The local inhabitants' opposition to the IDF stay will increase. I am sure that the Shi'ites will not sit back with folded arms. The Lebanese will refuse to cooperate, and the problems with Egypt will continue. The best possible solution to the problem of Lebanon is for Israel to present the security arrangements it requires, withdraw to the international border, leave Lebanon to the Lebanese, and not tie up the withdrawal with the Syrians. The Syrians in Lebanon are a separate matter. One should remember that Syria is an Arab country that entered Lebanon legally. At the same time, I understand Israel's need for

certain arrangements. A way to attain them must be found, whether this is through UN forces, multinational forces, local forces, or the Lebanese Army, when it is ready to take responsibility for order in the area.

[Question] How is Egypt contributing to a settlement of the crisis in Lebanon?

[Answer] Egypt has good relations with Lebanon, and together we are looking for the correct solutions; we are prepared to help to attain them.

[Question] In your opinion, how can relations between Egypt and Israel be improved and the "cold peace" ended?

[Answer] There are three points to be settled for relations with Egypt to improve: first, the Israeli Army's withdrawal from Lebanon; second, a start must be made on solving the Tabah problem; and, third, a start must be made on solving the Palestinian problem and building confidence among the inhabitants of Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

[Question] Why is Egypt intransigent on the Tabah issue? Are a few hundred isolated meters more important than the entire peace?

[Answer] Tabah is a part of the peace agreement. Egypt believes that Tabah involves Egyptian sovereignty. Therefore we want to solve the problem in accordance with the Camp David agreement; that means going to arbitration and not wasting time. We are interested in resolving the dispute as rapidly as possible because it is a very sensitive issue. In our view, Tabah is Egyptian land. If the Israelis are so confident that Tabah belongs to them, why do they not agree to arbitration? The issue has been discussed for 3 years now and nothing has moved; so there is no alternative but arbitration.

[Question] Do you not see any chance of an improvement in relations before the problems you enumerated are solved?

[Answer] First, we must remember that there has been peace between Egypt and Israel for 3 years. We have ended the state of war. Israel has an embassy in Egypt and Egypt has an embassy in Israel. Both countries have representations and consulates. The borders between the countries are open. Egypt recognizes Israel; El Al planes land in Cairo and our planes land in Israel. We have permitted your ships to pass through the Suez Canal, and many other things as well. There are many countries that maintain full diplomatic relations with Israel, but the ties between those countries and Israel are much less developed, much less open, much less friendly than they are between us.

[Question] Do you think that peace between Israel and Egypt is at the top of the Egyptian citizens' interests? Is it important for an Egyptian falah [agricultural worker], for instance, that there is peace with Israel at all?

[Answer] I would like to address your question to Israelis who have visited Egypt. How did they feel? What warmth and amiability did Egyptian citizens show Israelis? Our strategy, now and in the future, is peace, and the man in the street believes in it.

[Question] Why are the bilateral links in many fields, such as trade, culture, and tourism, so restricted by Egypt?

[Answer] There are many reasons for this and I assume that I do not have to detail the differences in the standard of living between Egypt and Israel. We do not feel the need to go off to tour the world. As for the rich minority in Egypt who have the ability to travel for pleasure, it prefers to tour and vacation in places to which it has become accustomed over many years. Another problem making tourism difficult from Egypt is (Dayr Sultan), the Egyptian church in Jerusalem, which was taken away from the Egyptian churchmen and given to the Ethiopian Church. Now that there is peace, why do you not return the church to its Egyptian owners, especially after the High Court of Justice ruled in favor of our claims? Following the affair, the head of the Egyptian Church decided to ban members of his community from traveling to Israel until the rights to the church are returned to its owners. This, too, decreases the number of Egyptian tourists who come to Israel. Your stay in Lebanon is also making it difficult for many Egyptians to travel to a country that is occupying the land of an Arab country.

[Question] This week reports were published that Egypt is making it difficult for Israel to present its books at the Cairo book fair, bearing in mind that last year, too, Israel did not succeed in participating in the fair. Is the belief correct, that Egypt is making cultural links difficult?

[Answer] The Egyptian Government is not trying to make things difficult in dealing with these issues. When we look at a specific problem, we must examine it from all sides. At the same time, it is true that the problems between us are making peace difficult and turning it into a "cold peace." As for the books affair, I have not received a precise report on what occurred.

[Question] What relations do you have with the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, and how do they accept you as the representative of Cairo?

[Answer] The main and most important problem of all is the Palestinian problem. We cannot solve the other main problems until a solution is found for that one. The Palestinians are divided into two groups: those who are living in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, and those who are living abroad. Egypt is the only Arab country that has peace with Israel, and I think it is normal that it should also maintain good relations with the Palestinians living here.

[Question] Do you believe in the PLO's path of terrorism?

[Answer] As I said, our strategy is peace, now and in the future. We are interested in the PLO recognizing Israel and in Israel recognizing the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people. As soon as this recognition is achieved, we will be able to march forward to negotiations for comprehensive peace.

[Question] What are the implications following the Jordanian king's visit to Egypt for Egypt's return to the Arab world?

[Answer] In my view, there is no difference between our view of the solution to the conflict in the Middle East and the solution

the other Arab countries are proposing. The only difference is that Egypt has already taken the first step. It is important to remember that at the Fes summit all the Arab countries agreed to the need for a solution based on peace.

[Question] What is Jordan's place in the comprehensive peace agreement?

[Answer] Of course Jordan is a main partner. Israel is holding Jordanian land and Jordan must take an active part in negotiations, because if we want to achieve results, we must invite all the sides.

[Question] What is Egypt's attitude toward the Iran-Iraq war?

[Answer] Egypt is a Middle Eastern country. We live here and are interested in peace. We are against war in any event, and we are also doing our best to stop the Iran-Iraq war, in order to stop foreign forces, such as the United States and the Soviet Union, from infiltrating and disturbing peace in our area.

[Question] Egypt is continuing to procure weapons from many sources in the world, and, at the same time, it is also continuing to train its forces in operative tasks against its enemies. From the military aspect, what is Egypt aiming at?

[Answer] Every country needs to be strong in order to continue to exist. The stronger we are, the more we will be respected and will succeed in maintaining peace in the area. This does not mean that we are purchasing arms with the aim of opposing peace, no! One of the six points in our declaration following the revolution of 1952 was to build up a strong army with the aim of preventing war and not in order to attack our neighbors. This is normal, and this is how the other countries of the world behave. All our power is devoted to defending our borders. The army is a deterrent factor. We will not use it unless there is an attempt to attack us. In such an event, we will be firm and insist on our rights. It is no coincidence that we changed the title of the war minister to "defense minister." The change expresses a policy.

[Question] In your opinion, is today's Israeli Government more convenient for negotiations with Egypt?

[Answer] We are receiving signals from Prime Minister Peres indicating the possibility of going beyond the peace agreement. We believe that Shim'on Peres sincerely wants to improve bilateral relations. However, at present, the ball is in the Israeli Government's court and we are waiting for it to make a move in the direction of a just and comprehensive peace.

Sason Greeted Coolly by Egyptian Minister

*TA041051 Tel Aviv YEDIOT AHARONOT in Hebrew
4 Jan 85 p 2*

[Gad Becker report]

[Text] To judge from the report by Israel's Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason, the ties between Israel and Egypt are far from what they were in the good old days, just as a kiss and a hug are remote from a cool handshake.

Sason met in Cairo this week with the Egyptian minister of state for information. In the talk, Israel's complaints about the Egyptian media attacks on Israel and the peace agreement were raised again. The Egyptian minister reiterated the well-known stand: Our media are completely free.

In his report, Ambassador Sason remarks that the two greeted each other with no more than a diplomatic handshake, and not with a friendly hug and even an eastern kiss on the cheek, which was how their previous meeting had started.

Italy Mediating in Middle East Conflict

TA041132 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Italian Foreign Affairs Minister Giulio Andreotti has left on an official visit to Jordan. He will confer with King Husayn, among others, and will discuss matters pertaining to the Middle East. Italian Government ministers have recently been feverishly active in the Middle East in a bid to mediate between Israel and the Arab countries.

Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that Italian Tourism Minister Lelio Lagorio, who is winding up a visit in Israel today, has conveyed a message from the Italian prime minister to the prime minister and the foreign minister, in which Rome explains that being a true friend of Israel, Italy has been trying to overcome and ease tensions between Israel and moderate Arab countries. Our correspondent heard remarks in this vein from the Italian tourism minister.

The Italian tourism minister added that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres would be arriving in Italy for a visit in mid-February.

News Conference Held on Ethiopian Airlift

TA031745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Avraham Ben-Melekh report — recorded]

[Text] Representatives of the government and the Jewish Agency held a special news conference to talk about something no longer secret. The subject: the absorption of Ethiopian Jews into Israel. Reports both in Israel and all over the world publicized this secret, forcing the prime minister's office to end the wave of reports and rumors by holding a special news conference. The reports surprised most of the people involved in the operation — such as the chairman of the World Zionist Organization, Arye Dulzin; the director of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department, Hayim Aharon; and the minister of Immigration Absorption, Ya'aqov Tzur — who surreptitiously left the country on this business. The World Zionist Organization was represented this evening by its treasurer and acting chairman, 'Aqiva Levinsky. He disclosed the initial demographic figures:

[Levinsky] More than 10,000 have come to Israel. We do not have the exact figures; I do not know them and I believe no one can tell for sure how many can still be expected.

Those who are already here are currently embarking on this long and important process of assimilation. They have been arriving in Israel — and with God's help, others will continue to come — at a time when we in Israel are confronting quite a few economic difficulties. As always, the Jewish Agency has accepted the responsibility for their initial absorption — as with every previous wave of immigration.

[Ben-Melekh] No additional details were revealed this evening on how the Ethiopian Jews were brought to Israel. Earlier in the day the report was released that their arrival was made possible by way of a secret airlift operation.

Treasurer Levinsky noted that the initial absorption period for the Ethiopian Jews will be 1 year, rather than the customary 6 months, and that the cost of the 1st year of absorption is \$25,000 per person.

Health Ministry Director General Prof Dan Mikha'eli noted that the newcomers have undergone a three-phased medical classification process: first at Ben-Gurion Airport, then at the Ashqelon absorption center, and finally in their permanent absorption center. Prof Mikha'eli said that the Ethiopian Jews are suffering both from African diseases and from famine.

[Mikha'eli] In the last few months, we have seen problems that result from two causes: first, maladies in that part of Africa; and second, the result of famine and the extended stay in refugee camps — which I do not have to describe to you. As a result of all these, the people we see right now are suffering quite a bit. This is manifest both in specifically tropical diseases, and in other contagious infectious diseases which are the result of a combination of hunger and malnutrition, together with a drastic decline in the body's immunity system.

[Ben-Melekh] This, perhaps, is the reason why so few of the newcomers are over the age of 50.

Shmu'el Shenhar, the deputy director general of the Immigration Absorption Ministry, said that every effort will be made to guarantee the best possible absorption process.

[Shenhar] We are trying to prepare for the assimilation of the Ethiopian Jews, which will undoubtedly be difficult. We are hoping that we will not repeat mistakes committed in the past, as they were when absorbing other groups of immigrants from various countries.

The Foreign Ministry's representative, Moshe Gilbo'a, who directs the World Jewish Affairs Department, noted that the fact that Israel absorbs Black African Jews warmly and lovingly should show the entire world that we are not a racist nation.

Tzur on Cost, Financing

TA040551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Immigration Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur has said that the absorption of the Ethiopian Jews in Israel will cost several hundred million dollars and that he will use his tour in

the United States to finance this operation. He expressed his regret about the publication of this affair, saying that it had been premature. The minister confirmed that several Israeli authorities had been opposed to absorbing these immigrants. However, he believes this is an enterprise the State of Israel should carry out. He noted that 25,000 Jews had been living in Ethiopia, and he expressed the hope that the day will come when all of them come to Israel. Minister Tzur confirmed to our correspondent Razi Barqay that the Washington administration had agreed to give Israel a unique grant of \$5 million to help this cause.

Moda'i Says 1985 Budget Cut \$1.7 Billion

TA031605 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i by Jerusalem-based economic affairs correspondent Tzvi Zerayha on 2 January; place not given]

[Excerpts] Anybody who reads the state comptroller's report understands that it does not question the structure of the financial system but rather certain decisions made by the economic and financial leaders in Israel. This was said by Finance Minister Moda'i in an interview with *DAVAR* yesterday, in an initial reaction to the state comptroller's report on the collapse of the bank shares.

Moda'i said the government paid a high price by its very participation in the bank shares arrangements following the crisis. Theoretically, the government could have held the banks responsible for the crisis, but this would have increased the public's losses. Therefore, the government is now committed vis-a-vis the public, and will meet all its obligations to the investors.

The finance minister said that the state comptroller's report on the bank shares collapse should be treated with complete earnestness, and appropriate measures should be taken. At the same time, he believes that any rash action might be dangerous. In his opinion, the government and the Knesset should coordinate in order to prevent the establishment of two commissions of inquiry. He said he was waiting for a decision on the matter and will later decide what action he would take. He has also not yet decided whether to summon the governor of the Bank of Israel and banking officials for talks on the report.

Minister Moda'i says he does not understand the fear that lawsuits will be filed against the banks. According to him, the investors were guaranteed the real value of the shares in the arrangements [made following the collapse]; therefore the investors cannot sue the banks for speculative profits they did not make.

As for the future operation of the financial system, Moda'i said: "I favor a policy of less involvement in the capital market by the government. The government has nothing to do on a massive scale in the capital market. Those with capital should be brought together with economic authorities, and this need not be through the government."

Question: Why is the budget cut not being fully implemented?

Answer: There is no choice. The cut should be implemented and quickly. I am sorry we have procrastination. I am well aware of the enormous difficulty in cutting the budget, but it will be a very grave matter if the government's decisions on a budget cut and new taxes are not approved in the Knesset with the help of the coalition majority. I understand that that was the goal of the meeting this week between the prime minister and the coalition's executive. In January we will finish preparing a budget for 1985. The total budget cut will amount to \$1.7 billion, including a cut in the subsidies, as compared to last year.

Question: What are your proposals for package deal "B"?

Answer: I cannot specify them before I have agreements or reach conclusions with the other parties. There is no doubt that the negotiations on package deal "B" should be concluded in the next 2 weeks. The social-economic council is convening this morning [as published] to discuss the battle against unemployment and the black capital market.

Question: The data on how much money was pumped into the economy will be reported today. I understand that the sums of money involved are large.

Answer: In December, 100 to 115 billion shekels were pumped into the economy (at the time of the interview with the finance minister last night the final data had not yet been received; by 30 December 1984, 115 billion shekels had been pumped into the economy — T.Z.) The monthly average during the 100 days of grace is less than the monthly figure at the beginning of 1984.

Question: What do you think about the lack of support you are getting from the government?

Answer: I regret this. A finance minister should receive the government's backing.

Question: Are you supported by the prime minister?

Answer: I have neither expectations nor complaints. I have complaints about the national unity government's overall ability to function. The economic issue is the only one on which there is a consensus. Everybody immediately agreed to cuts, but when it comes to implementation matters are delayed. The delays cost time and erodes a little of our economic health. If cuts are implemented late, this makes the process of recovery more difficult. We have been curbing [inflation and the general deterioration]; we should now be reaching economic stability and balance, on the basis of which growth can be resumed.

Question: The way the government has handled the economic problems has harmed its image. Do you have an overall economic plan?

Answer: The way to handle the situation is clear and has been agreed to despite all the voices that are heard: A budget cut should be implemented; income tax collection should be increased by legislation; foreign currency reserves should be defended through legislation, which is being prepared already; government contracts should be frozen and the package deal should be complemented with one handling the capital market.

These are the main components of the government's overall economic plan. It is true that this plan needs to be completed. We should, for instance, continue those economic processes that have been agreed to and those that have not at the end of the present package deal; we should also agree on the distribution of the economic recovery burden among the parties in the next package deal. There are consolidated proposals regarding this, but the proposals require an agreement. It has been a month now since I discussed matters with the parties to the deal, and progress has been made. I think that in the 100 days since we began to take action we have had some success. This success and the new atmosphere that has been created are some guarantee, or at least give us a chance, that we will continue to restore the economy.

Moda'i on U.S. Responses to Economic Policy

TA031959 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1910 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 3 Jan (ITIM) — Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i said this evening that the government will work out a plan for a phase two package deal within 2 to 3 weeks. He added that talks with the partners to the package deal have been underway for a month now, and added that he is convinced a second package deal will be signed.

The finance minister was addressing a meeting of the Liberal Party Center (in the Likud) held at the ZOA [Zionist Organization of America] House in Tel Aviv.

"There was no letter from George Shultz," the finance minister said in reply to a question by Knesset Member Dan Tikhon. Therefore, there is nothing to say about a nonexistent letter. He added that, in principle, the Americans agree with our way, and have doubts only about the speed with which we carry things out. I, too, have objections to the speed, the finance minister said.

Minister Moda'i first talked about the current government, which was not established on the basis of a joint security program. No joint sessions could consolidate basic guidelines for this government. There is no agreement on Judea, Samaria, or the Gaza Strip; there is only an agreement regarding the Jewish settlements there. There is no agreement on the future of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, and each side sticks firmly to its position. "We did not give up the belief that Judea, Samaria, and Gaza are an integral part of Israel, and we certainly oppose a territorial partition and a return to the Green Line," Minister Moda'i said. He added that there is no consensus on Lebanon, either. The cold peace with Egypt troubles him. The Egyptian demands regarding Tabah are a demand to pay twice for the same merchandise.

Optimism Seen for New Package Deal Talks

TA031226 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The meeting of the Social and Economic Council supervising the package deal ended a short time ago in Jerusalem. The participants in this meeting expressed to our correspondent Gadi Sukenik their optimism concerning the possibility of reaching an agreement on a new package deal. The Histadrut secretary general suggested that if the sides do not reach a quick

agreement, the price freeze should continue for the time being. The prime minister announced that the negotiations on the next package deal will start immediately, and promised to speed up legislation on the budget cuts. The Histadrut secretary general opposed the proposal raised by Shim'on Peres to shorten the work week in the public and government sectors to 5 days, in order to prevent dismissals. Yisra'el Qeysar claims that this will bring about a 7 percent decrease in the workers' salaries.

Foreign Currency Reserves Continue To Drop

TA031526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Israel's foreign currency reserves are continuing their downward trend, and the pumping of shekels into the economy is also continuing, at staggering figures. Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that last month foreign currency reserves dropped by \$220 million, and they currently stand at \$2.601 billion. Without a dramatic shift in Israel's balance of payments, the forecast is for such a low level of foreign currency reserves within a few months that Israel's economic stability and financial position in the world will be endangered.

As for the printing of money, it has been reported that last month the government pumped 101 billion shekels into the economy, partly by way of subsidies for basic commodities. The Treasury artificially prevented the continuation of this by freezing mortgages to those eligible, aid to industrial plants, and holding down budget allocations to various institutions and offices. The scale of the money being pumped into the economy is underscored against the backdrop of the success in absorbing money from the public in the capital market, where there was a marked increase in the public's participation in various saving schemes as opposed to the withdrawal of money. Even more money is expected to be pumped into the economy this month, and estimates are that this will reach hundreds of billions of shekels.

IDF Takes Measures To Prevent Lahd Army Revenge

TA041031 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Jan 85 p 3

[Report by correspondent in the north Shim'on Weiss]

[Excerpt] A reinforced IDF unit was summoned yesterday to the area of Burj Rahhal, southeast of Tyre, due to fears that soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] might take revenge upon the local residents.

These fears were aroused after an ASL soldier was killed and his friend wounded while patrolling an area of the coastal road covered with orchards. Light arms fire was directed at them from a terrorist ambush.

The soldier, an inhabitant of Bint Jubayl, was killed instantly and his friend was evacuated to receive medical treatment. An IDF force was sent to the site to calm tempers, in the wake of the lesson learned in the Suhmur massacre approximately 2 months ago.

IDF Convoy Ambushed in Lebanon; No Casualties

TA031812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Hayim Hecht report — recorded]

[Excerpt] Automatic weapons fire was aimed at an IDF patrol on the outskirts of Al-Nabatiyah last night. A terrorist squad this afternoon ambushed an IDF convoy near Al-Insariyah. It exploded a roadside bomb using a cable, and fired bursts of automatic weapons fire. No one was hurt in either incident.

Attacks Against IDF, Lahd Army Troops Reported

TA040951 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0941 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] There were three attempts to attack IDF and army of southern Lebanon troops today. Our forces did not sustain any casualties, but an ASL soldier sustained serious wounds. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that a Katyusha rocket was fired at an IDF base in the Al-Nabatiyah area but did not cause any damage. An ASL patrol was attacked in the village of Suhmur, in which an ASL soldier was seriously injured and consequently evacuated to the hospital. In a third incident, an explosive planted by the side of the road blew up in the center of Sidon but here were no casualties. Our correspondent points out that there have been 21 attacks in southern Lebanon since the beginning of the week, 10 of them were directed against the ASL. An ASL soldier was killed, two others were wounded, and five IDF soldiers were also wounded in these attacks.

Gush Emunim Plans Confrontation Aimed at Likud

TA041148 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
4 Jan 85 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Excerpt] Security sources yesterday told the 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent that based on reports received by the security establishment, an increase in Gush Emunim activities is expected next week, in order to bring about a confrontation with the security forces.

The 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent reports that apparently Tehiya and Gush Emunim supporters intend to test the Likud's loyalties, by forcing it to choose between its commitment to the settlements and the continued partnership in the national unity government. This comes against the background of the impasse in contacts between the Alignment and the Likud concerning the approval of five new settlements.

Sources among the settlers have told the 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent that the confrontation with the security establishment has in fact already begun. They said that the IDF recently demolished an asbestos building which was erected by yeshiva students in Joseph's Tomb in Nabulus. The building was erected on the same site as a tabernacle which was built by the settlers during the last Feast of Tabernacles holiday.

OAU Rebukes Countries for Air Talks With S. Africa
NC031924 Paris AFP in English 1834 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jan 3 (AFP)— The Organization of African Unity (OAU) today implicitly rebuked unnamed countries in East Africa said to have entered into secret negotiations with Pretoria to grant landing and overflight rights to South African Airways (SAA).

Reports from Johannesburg on Monday said the South African Foreign Ministry had started negotiations with Somalia for landing and overflight rights for the government-controlled South African airlines.

This followed confirmation that South African Foreign Minister Rieffersik had just ended a tour of "various East African states."

"According to some press reports, Mr. Rieffersik, the foreign minister of the racist regime of Pretoria, has launched a diplomatic offensive in East Africa," The OAU said today in a press statement released at its headquarters here.

"It is hinted that landing and overflying facilities have been negotiated between apartheid South Africa and some governments of the eastern region."

"The OAU wishes to remind its member states that the organization, since its inception in 1963, has taken a stand in favour of a complete ban on South African air traffic."

Without referring to any country by name, the OAU statement recalled that member states had "unanimously and unequivocally" given their consent to banning transit and flights over their territories of all aircraft registered in South Africa.

Since South Africa still remained a country where democratic rights were denied to the black majority, there was no reason for any independent African country "to depart from resolutions to which they are bound morally and politically," the statement said.

It also recalled a declaration of the 20th OAU summit here last November to the effect that the economic and communications links inherited by some African countries should not be used by others as an excuse for establishing or expanding economic and political contact "with the forces of racism in South Africa."

This was a reference to the economic ties forced by geography on black southern African states such as Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho.

It was also an allusion that other countries like Cape Verde off the West African coast and the Indian Ocean islands of Mauritius and Comoros, which have granted aviation rights to Pretoria.

South African airline officials have said that landing rights in Eastern Africa could mean considerable savings to South African Airways in its commercial operations to the Middle East and parts of Europe.

ALGERIA

Weekly Cites Energy Minister on OPEC Talks*LD031343 Algiers APS in English 1143 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Text] Algiers 3/01/85 (APS) — In an interview to the weekly *ALGERIE ACTUALITE*, Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy, chemical and petrochemical industries, commented on the results of the last meeting of OPEC members. He said that Algeria expressed a position of principle. First of all the income of the "light" crude exporting countries must not decrease, secondly the income of other countries can raise inasmuch as this increase makes also competitive the "heavy" crudes and the "light" crudes.

Referring to the positions of certain OPEC member countries, the energy minister declared that these are very dangerous ideas one is to beware of because rich people can make fatal errors. Certain countries which want to play a determinant role within the OPEC can make the grievous error to empty this organization from all its powers. Those who want to destroy the OPEC should think about what will happen after. And I think that within the OPEC, we all are strong and powerful. Those who produce 300,000 barrels per day and those which produce 3 millions of barrels per day, out of the OPEC we will all be weaker than we are today.

LIBYA

People's Congresses To Discuss Foreign Policy*LD031619 Tripoli JANA in English 1450 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 12, January 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Basic People's Congresses of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya will hold next Saturday, January 5th, their third ordinary meetings for the year 1985. The congresses will discuss a number of domestic and foreign issues, as well as the implementation of the resolutions taken during these meetings and formulated by the General People's Congress' 9th session for the year 1984, together with the formulation of the administrative and transformation budgets for 1985.

In the field of foreign policy, the Basic People's Congresses will discuss Jamahiriya's relations with Britain as well as the 1984 treaties and agreements. This, in addition to the phenomenon of some countries' restoration of relations with the Egyptian regime which is enslaved by the Camp David accords of humiliation and shame.

Briefs

Ethiopian, Guinean Envoys — The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau this morning received credentials of (Ismail Hasan), the new Ethiopian ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. He also received credentials of the new Guinean ambassador, (?Athioubi Degar). [Excerpts][*Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Jan 85 LD*]

MAURITANIA

Council of Ministers Appoints Regional Governors*AB031205 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met yesterday, 2 January, 1985, under the chairmanship of Colonel Maaouya Sid' Ahmed Ould Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. The council approved a draft bill on water supply. The ordinance regulates water exploitation for any use and is aimed at guaranteeing optimal management and the protection of our water resources.

The minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation reported on Arab, African, and international issues. The minister of interior reported on the internal situation.

Finally, the Cabinet approved the following measures concerning the appointment of new regional governors within the Ministry of Interior:

Governor of Hodh el Charqui: (El Hassan Maouloud), civil administrator

Governor of Hodh el Gharbi: (Mah Sid' Ahmed Essa), magistrate

Governor of Assaba: (Ban Mohamed el Ali), magistrate

Governor of Guidimaka: (Diallo Abou Moussa), civil administrator

Governor of Brakna: (Abdoulaye Sid' al-Abnou), civil administrator

Governor of Trarza: (Sid' Mohamed el Amin), civil administrator

Governor of Tagant: (Mohamed el Amin Salem), civil administrator

Governor of (Noumra)ott: Sid' Mahamoud el Cheick, civil administrator

Governor of Inchiri: (El Hadrame Limenbouou), civil administrator

Governor of Adrar: (Ba Alengou), civil administrator

Governor of Tiris Zemmour: (Captain Cheick Ould Daddah)

Administrative supervisor: (Cherif Ould Mohamed Mahamoud)

SUDAN

Official Condemns Al-Qawasimi Assassination*JN041140 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Jan 85*

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Jan (SUNA) — Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ibrahim Muhammad 'Ali has expressed the Sudanese Government's and people's condemnation of violence and physical liquidation whose recent victim was PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi.

This came in a meeting with PLO envoy Jamal 'Arafat yesterday. Jamal 'Arafat expressed his appreciation to the Sudanese Government and people for their lofty stand toward the Palestinian people.

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers Reports 250 Moroccan Troops Killed

LD031924 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT

3 Jan 85

[Text] There was a violent Polisario attack in the Mahbes region on 1 January. According to the Saharan Ministry of Information, 250 Moroccan soldiers were killed and a total of 550 Moroccan soldiers were taken out of action. Thirty-two military vehicles were destroyed.

ETHIOPIA

Government Dismisses Somali Reports on Attack

NC031647 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, Jan 3 (AFP)— Ethiopia today dismissed allegations by Mogadishu that Somali troops killed 200 Ethiopian soldiers and wounded many more in a dawn attack on the central Somali town of Balambal on Tuesday.

The accusations were merely an extension of a "campaign of lies" mounted by Mogadishu against Ethiopia, a spokesman for the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said here.

The statement followed a broadcast by the Somali rebel radio station Halgan yesterday which said the rebel Somali Salvation Democratic Front (DFSS) had repulsed a Somali Government offensive on its positions in the same area on the same day, killing 64 soldiers and wounding 142.

The rebel organization, which is reportedly backed by Ethiopia, and the Somali Government thus appeared to be referring to the same incident.

The Ethiopian spokesman said not "a single" Ethiopian soldier had taken part in any kind of operation as claimed by Somalia.

"The tottering regime in Mogadishu is forever searching for scapegoats, conveniently forgetting that its repressive policies at home have provoked a spreading rebellion," he added.

SOMALIA

Samantar Briefs Arab Envoys on 'Provocative Attacks'

EA031236 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar, Somali first vice president and minister of defense, today met Arab envoys accredited to Somalia at the Ministry of Defense headquarters in Mogadishu. He briefed the envoys about the military situation in the Horn of Africa and on the provocative attacks on the Amharas against Somalia for transmission to their respective governments.

SNM Condemns Government Alliance With RSA

LD032125 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The Foreign Relations Office of the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces issued a very strongly worded statement condemning the Mogadishu clique for the so-called secret visit to Mogadishu by the foreign minister of apartheid South Africa. The visit, which the world population knows about, astonished the world.

The statement released by the SNM says it strongly condemns the unholy alliance between the Mogadishu clique and apartheid South Africa. This is worrying the SNM greatly, particularly at this time when the dictatorial regime of Siad Barre is attempting to launch a major offensive on SNM bases in the mountainous areas of the northern regions of the country and the bases which are along the frontlines in the battle zones.

The dictatorial regime of Mogadishu is receiving moral and material support from foreign mercenaries and from apartheid South Africa. For this reason, the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces calls upon all member states of the OAU, the Arab League, the United Nations in general, and in particular the countries of the Horn of Africa to oppose this open violation of international principles and charters, particularly those of the OAU. It calls on the brutal regime of Siad Barre to stop its wanton massacres of innocent and defenseless civilians and at the same time vehemently condemns it for its abhorrent policies, which were disclosed by journalists and by the international media.

The SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces earlier drew the attention of the world at large to the so-called diplomatic relations established by the Mogadishu clique with the Pretoria regime. The SNM wing in London staged demonstrations against this unholy alliance between Siad Barre and apartheid South Africa in July 1984. The demonstrations called for the total isolation and condemnation of the brutal regime of Siad Barre's dictatorial regime and the policies pursued by it in the Horn of Africa.

The regime invited apartheid South Africa into the Horn of Africa and at the same time introduce licensed mercenaries from apartheid South Africa into the region. Apartheid South Africa, which has been condemned and isolated at all international forums, has now found an outlet and an ally in the Mogadishu clique, which also pursues policies that isolate it from the rest of its neighbors.

Radio Halgan: SNM Kills 25 Soldiers in 27 Dec Attack

EA032135 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Units from the Khalid Bin Walid Base at Dolo of the fighters of the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces killed 25 enemy soldiers and wounded many others from the 53d Brigade of the 19th Battalion of the loyalist troops of the Mogadishu regime after the SNM fighters launched a surprise attack on their base at (Barbari) village near the Gedweynah area in Lugh district on 27 December 1984. The report says that fighters from the Khalid Bin Walid Base lost two martyrs.

Other reports from the SNM Khalid Bin Walid Base at Dolo say that SNM fighters launched a surprise attack on the dispirited forces of Siad Barre in Lugh Gedo region and killed six soldiers and wounded many others. The reports add that of the loyalist troops that were sent to pursue the SNM fighters, three defected to the Khalid Bin Walid Base at Dolo.

UGANDA

Minister Confirms 'Bandits' Fleeing From Luwero

EA031731 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
2 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of defense has reaffirmed today that statements made last week to the effect that a group of bandits known to compose of their leaders [as heard] are, on account of intensified military operations in Luwero District, running away from Luwero into neighboring districts.

The Army is in pursuit of the fleeing bandits. Yesterday the fleeing bandits group were sighted in the area of (Kabamba) military training school. The bandit group is now reported to be heading west of (Kabamba).

The people in the counties of (Singwa), (Iganga Iji), and (Siaka) are warned to be on the lookout. The bandits are desperate for food, civilian clothing, and any form of transport. Anyone who is approached, or whose home is looted, or who comes across them, or in any way comes to know about them should report to the nearest chief, police station, or Army detachment.

CHAD

UNIR Subcommittees Set Up in Occupied Territories

*AB032141 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 3 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] The number one preoccupation of Chadians is to see that portions of our territory dishonored by the Tripoli regime are restored to the country. The best method to achieve this is to increase the awareness of the inhabitants of the occupied territories to the realities of the problems facing the Chadian people. It is this sensitization process that the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] Central Committee is actively promoting. Proof of this is the establishment of UNIR basic organs in these parts of the country. First of all, a UNIR Provisional Regional Committee Bureau has been created. The provisional subcommittees of Borkou, Bardai and Fada sub-prefectures have also been established.

GABON

Bongo Reduces Sentences of Common Law Prisoners

AB031245 Dakar PANA in French 1120 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Libreville, 3 Jan (AGP-PANA) — Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo, to mark the New Year, on Wednesday took several measures in Libreville affecting 1,800 common law convicts who are not hardened criminals and have not been subjected to any disciplinary action during their detention.

Convicts whose sentences did not exceed 6 months were immediately released, while sentences were reduced as follows: by 1 year for persons sentenced up to 5 years; by 2 years for those sentenced from 5 to 10 years; and by 3 years for those sentenced to more than 10 years.

Those sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labor have had their sentence commuted to 20 years of hard labor. Prisoners convicted of voluntary homicide and those found guilty of armed robbery with violence against persons are excluded from these measures, it was pointed out.

This presidential clemency comes just after the release on 3 December 1984 of six political prisoners on the occasion of the 17th anniversary of Mr Bongo's assumption of office and the release of three other political detainees on 29 December 1984 on the eve of the 49th birthday of the Gabonese head of state.

ZAIRE

Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

AB031700 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1230 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 3 Jan (AZAP) — Venancio de Moura, Angolan deputy minister of external relations, arrived in Kinshasa on Thursday from Luanda with a written message from President Eduardo dos Santos to Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko. The Angolan statesman did not make any statement to the press, but it is

believed that this message concerns relations of cooperation and good-neighborliness between Angola and Zaire.

Delivers President Dos Santos' Message

*AB041130 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1000 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Text] Kinshasa, 3 Jan (AZAP) — Angolan Deputy Minister of External Relations Venancio Moura on Thursday delivered a message from Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos to Citizen Kengo Wa Dondo, first state commissioner, for his Zairian counterpart, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko. Mr Moura, who gave no details about the contents of the message, indicated however that his presence in Zaire falls within the framework of the preparations for the official visit of the Angolan head of state to Zaire. He confirmed the official visit is to take place but did not give any date. The date will be fixed at the ministerial level.

Asked about the present situation in southern Angola, the Angolan deputy minister replied that it has not changed since his last visit to Kinshasa on the occasion of the swearing-in ceremony of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko. The South African presence in southern Angola remains a reality. The South Africans have made a new proposal — to transform the present commission for the supervision of the troop withdrawal into a joint peace-keeping force at the borders.

If the Angolan authorities accepted the establishment of the first commission, it cannot accept the second proposal, which aims at preventing SWAPO's struggle. In fact, Angola continues to strongly support SWAPO. Angola feels that South Africa and SWAPO should agree to a cease-fire and that UN Resolution 435 remains the legal instrument for ensuring lasting peace in the region.

On the diplomatic scene, Angola is ready to continue the talks. The document recently sent to the UN secretary general containing the Angolan proposal is proof of this. Angola is ever ready to meet the Americans again, Mr Moura said.

Citizen Lengema Dulia, secretary of state for international cooperation, was present at the audience the first state commissioner granted to the Angolan deputy minister at his private residence in Binza.

Public Enterprises To Service Own Debts

AB031830 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 3 (AFP) — Public enterprises in Zaire are to service their own debts, Finance Ministry sources said here Wednesday.

The measure is part of a program for reorganizing public finances and the economy and is intended to make the public bodies more responsible, the sources said. The state would step in only when debt payments due were in default, they added. Zaire's external public debt is \$3.8 billion. Finance Minister Kiakwama Kia Kiziki has told each enterprise to prepare a statement showing what it owes in total, the sources said.

BURKINA

Council of Ministers Creates Economic-Social Council

AB022057 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The first meeting of the Council of Ministers in 1985 was held today, 2 January, under the chairmanship of Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of the Republic. Many issues on the agenda were examined.

With respect to the Presidency of the Republic, the council adopted a draft ordinance and a draft decree providing for the establishment and organization of a Revolutionary Economic and Social Council, CRES, the mission of which is to give advice and make recommendations on economic, social, and cultural policies. It will be composed of the people's representatives.

With respect to the Ministry of Economic Promotion, the council adopted a report on the deliberations of the board of directors of the Comoe Sugar Company, Sосуco. It took notice of the various recommendations aimed at solving that company's chronic deficit and encouraging measures likely to improve Sосуco management.

Today's council also adopted a draft decree providing for the creation of a Sahel Railroad scheme. In this connection, the government wants to embark on a battle for the promotion of rail transport in Burkina in order to supply our economy with that important basic infrastructure. The resolution of the problems of famine in the Burkinabe Sahel depends largely on the means of transport to be set up to reach that part of our national territory. Perhaps this battle for rail transportation is also the struggle against poverty and famine in the Sahel.

With respect to the Ministry of Finance, the council adopted two draft decrees providing for the creation of the National Agricultural Credit Fund, CNCA and approving the statutes of the fund within the framework of the implementation of a 15 August 1984 ordinance.

With respect to the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the council adopted a draft decree establishing air traffic taxes.

With respect to the Ministry of Budget, the council adopted the 1985 finance law and mandated the minister of budget to take the necessary measures to pay off the state's internal debts to economic agents. Such an exercise is necessary to destroy the state's image as a poor payer, an image which the reactionary regimes had given of the state toward internal creditors. This exercise is a followup of the commitment taken by the president in his address to the nation on 31 December 1984, when he pledged to further strengthen the state's credibility, which has continued to gain ground since the advent of the revolution.

Before the council ended its meeting, it appointed Comrade Alexis Kambou as director of the National Savings Bank, and lifted the suspension of Comrades Daniel Coulibaly and Aime Kabore Ripoulbo. Fatherland or death, we will win!

Minister Signs Loan Agreement With OPEC Fund

AB291056 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 29 Dec 84

[Text] Comrade Justin Damo Barro, minister of finance, returned home on 23 December 1984 from a mission which took him to Vienna and Dakar. In the Austrian capital, Comrade Barro, on behalf of the revolutionary Government of Burkina Faso, signed a draft loan agreement between our country and the OPEC Fund for International Development. This loan agreement, in the amount of \$2 million, will be used in financing the Burkinabe sector of the village water supply program of the Iptako-Gourma area. Comrade Barro also signed with the fund's authorities the (?agreement) authorizing the nation's \$5.6 million participation in financing a road link to the Konpienga Dam.

In Dakar, the comrade minister participated in the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the West Africa Monetary Union [UMOA] held on 22 December 1984. The council decided to continue in 1985 with the adjustment measures taken by member states of the union. It also approved the accounting system used in merging the balance sheets of the Central Banks of West African States [BCEAO] and the former Central Bank of Mali.

The UMOA Council of Ministers approved the allocation of profits accruing from the BCEAO accounts from 1 June to 30 September 1984 approved by the board of governors. Finally, the council was informed about the appointment by the BCEAO Board of Governors of Comrade Ama Boubacar Amadou as deputy governor of the BCEAO beginning 1 January 1985.

GHANA

Briefs

Loan Agreements With Japan — Ghana is to receive two grants totalling 210 million cedis from Japan. The agreements to this effect were signed in Accra this morning by the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the Japanese ambassador to Ghana, Mr Naoki Nakano. The first grant of 145 million cedis is for the rehabilitation of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation while the remaining 65 million cedis will be spent to improve maternal and child nutrition programs. [Excerpt] [Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Jan 85 AB]

GUINEA

Conte Denounces Tax Evasion, Customs Fraud

AB300756 Paris AFP in English 0708 GMT 30 Dec 84

[Text] Conakry, Dec 30 (AFP) — Organised tax evasion is rampant in Guinea and is "dangerously jeopardising" economic recovery, military head of state Lansana Conte warned in a circular published here Saturday. The circular was addressed to the finance minister, the head of the customs service and provincial governors.

Colonel Conte asserted that almost all the relevant authorities were aware of the frauds being perpetrated, and were even sometimes active accomplices. Singling out customs dues, he said receipts were nowhere near what they should be compared with the volume of goods crossing Guinea's borders. Yet over half the national budget depended on them, Col Conte noted. He urged customs officials to "make meticulous searches, with all the requisite courtesy, of every package" transiting Guinean frontiers. The colonel acknowledged that inquiries by international financial bodies had shown Guinea to have "one of the world's most permeable customs barriers."

Conte Calls on Diplomats To Offer Advice

AB312222 Paris AFP in French 1812 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Conkary, 31 Dec (AFP) — Guinean head of state Colonel Lansana Conte has asked diplomats accredited to Guinea to "positively advise and criticize" the actions of the country's leaders.

During the traditional new-year-wishes presentation ceremony by the diplomatic corps today, Col Conte stated that diplomats and representatives of international organizations "must not take refuge behind the diplomatic formula of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries' affairs."

For the Guinean head of state, diplomats should interest themselves amicably in the lives of the peoples of the countries to which they are accredited. Their mission is essentially to contribute to the creation of happiness for these peoples. "Saying nothing to the leaders of the country they are accredited to corresponds to an act of destabilization," Col Conte stated.

Presidential Decree Abolishes Subprefecture

AB031631 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Here is an ordinance from the head of state's office:

Considering the proclamation of 3 April 1984 on the effective takeover by the Army;

Considering the proclamation of the Second Republic;

Considering Ordinance No 009-PRG-84 of 18 April 1984 extending the validity of the laws and regulations prevailing in the country on 3 April 1984;

Considering Ordinance No 329 of 18 December 1984 appointing the members of the second government of the Republic;

Taking into account the geology and mining minister's report approved by the Ministerial Council on 25 June 1984 on the request to transfer the Banankoro diamond-rich zones to the mixed company Aredor-Guinea [expansion unknown], the president of the Republic decrees:

Article 1. The Banankoro subprefecture is abolished as of 1 January 1985;

Article 2. All persons who came to this locality recently for commercial reasons or to prospect for diamonds are requested to leave the town before 31 January 1985.

Article 3. Prefectural authorities are to take all necessary measures to resettle the inhabitants in regions outside the mining industrial zones.

Article 4. Official services located in Banankoro shall take all measures in conjunction with their headquarters to leave as soon as possible.

Article 5. The minister of state in charge of administrative reform, the Kankan provincial governor, and the prefect of Kerouani are charged with implementing the present ordinance, which will be recorded and published in the official journal.

Signed, Colonel Lansana Conte, president of the Republic, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress, head of state and of the government.

IVORY COAST

Briefs

New Envoy From Argentina — Hector Carlos Jose Sanit Ballesteros, the new Argentine ambassador to Ivory Coast, presented his credentials to Simon Ake, the Ivorian foreign minister, on Friday. [Excerpt] [Abiajan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 2 Jan 85 p 4 AB]

LIBERIA

Eastman Reaffirms 1986 Return to Civilian Rule

AB021745 Dakar PANA in English 1631 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Monrovia, 2 Jan (LINA/PANA) — Liberia's foreign minister, T. Ernest Eastman, has called on African leaders to consult among themselves in selecting a candidate for the post of UN secretary general in 1986. Mr Eastman made the remarks in Monrovia yesterday at a new year reception in honor of heads of diplomatic missions in Liberia.

On Liberia, Mr Eastman reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring a peaceful return to civilian democratic rule in January 1986, and told the diplomats that the Liberian Government needed the "sympathy, goodwill and understanding" of all nations of the world during the transition.

LUP Leader Wants To Address Interim Assembly

AB031733 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Text] The leader of the proposed Liberian Unification Party [LUP], Gabriel Kpoteh, is desiring to address the Interim National Assembly [INA] when his party has been registered. Mr Kpoteh told a local newspaper that there are a lot of things going on and which the INA does not know of, and if they knew, he said, they would know how to handle them. The LUP leader said he will never give up the race for the forthcoming presidential election. Mr Kpoteh told the paper that he shall register soon, perhaps before the month is up. The aspiring politician spoke of the difficulties his organizing committee has been encountering. He said his supporters are being jailed, dismissed from their posts, and harassed. Ours is an uphill struggle, Kpoteh continued. He said they have sent their complaints to the Special Elections Commission [Secom], with Secom passing the complaints on to the Ministry of Local Government, which does nothing about them. That is why I want to address the INA, and when I do so it will be a glorious day in this country, Kpoteh continued.

MALI**Briefs**

Agreement Signed With France — An agreement for the rehabilitation of the Niger Agricultural Development Project was signed this morning at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. According to the agreement, the sum of 250 million CFA francs has been earmarked for the total rehabilitation of the Niger Agricultural Development Project. The agreement covers water works, financial and accounting administration, as well as the cultivation of sugarcane. The agreement was signed for France by Jean Boulogne, the head of the French cooperation mission, and for Mali by Bassary Toure, the deputy managing director of international cooperation. [Text] [Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 3 Jan 85 AB]

New Ambassador to SFRY — The new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Mali to Yugoslavia, Djibril Demba Diallo, presented his letters of credence to the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Veselin Djuranovic, on 21 December. [Excerpt] [Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 3 Jan 85 AB]

NIGER**LE SAHEL on U.S. Withdrawal From UNESCO**

AB031957 Niamey LE SAHEL in French 21-23 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Ibricheck commentary: "UNESCO/United States: American Dictatorship?"]

[Text] Unless the unexpected happens — they confirmed it in Washington yesterday through their assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs, Gregory Newell — the United States will withdraw from UNESCO on 31 December; they will be followed in this action by Margaret Thatcher's Great Britain at the end of 1985. The reasons given by these two Western world leaders for their decision is the "excessive politicization" of the international institution and "bad management" by the administration of the present director general, the Senegalese Amadou M'bow.

These two sins, in the opinion of Washington and London, appear serious enough — and even intolerable — to justify a withdrawal which looks like an act of sabotage.

Let us not deceive ourselves; far from being a mere financial crisis — the United States provides a quarter of UNESCO's budget — which we can hope to solve by imagining a miraculous increase in the contributions of certain countries with high financial capabilities because of their extreme generosity, the whole of UNESCO's credibility is at stake.

In fact, how can UNESCO fulfill its own mission without the active participation of the nation whose cultural leadership is uncontested and whose supremacy in scientific matters is universally accepted? In more concrete terms, how can UNESCO's project for a new economic [as published] order for information and communication be implemented if the United States — whose technological advance in broadcasting information is inexhaustible — continues to oppose this experiment?

Though one may admit that some of the recent initiatives taken by UNESCO were unrealistic because of the speed with which they tried to overturn practices in such a conservative area [as information and communication] — a gradual approach would have been better — and that the Paris staff was becoming too large, the Reagan administration cannot ignore all the consequences of its action, especially the medium-term repercussions on the organization's viability.

In fact, the 12-month time limit given UNESCO to review its political orientation and its administrative methods is significant.

What one would like to know however, is whether the United States can do indefinitely without a forum as privileged as UNESCO?

NIGERIA

Buhari Meets With Delegation From Algeria

AB031914 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
3 Jan 85

[Text] African countries have been urged not to rely on the goodwill of other nations in solving their problems. This was stated today at Dodan Barracks by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while receiving a special delegation from President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria. The head of state remarked that cooperation between African countries in tackling economic problems is the best way of making the continent self-reliant.

Gen Buhari told the leader of the delegation, Mr Lounes Ferhat, that Nigeria and Algeria shared the same appreciation of African problems and called for cooperation in taking measures with other countries toward making Africa economically strong. The head of state praised the Algerian president for the efforts made in encouraging Arab countries to contribute to African development. He implored the leader of the delegation to extend his sympathy and that of the Federal Government to his Algerian counterpart for the recent storm disaster in Algeria. Gen Buhari hoped that the bilateral trade between the two countries would be expanded to mark the good relations between them.

The leader of the special delegation had earlier briefed the head of state on Algeria's efforts to get the newly created OAU Emergency Fund for Africa off the ground. The Algerian president emphasized that his country would like to cooperate with Nigeria in ensuring that Africa took the responsibility of solving its problems.

Further Details on 1985 Federal Budget

AB031240 Lagos NAN in English 1000 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 3 (NAN) — Rural development, crop production, craft and manufacturing, air transport system and posts and telecommunication are among sectors with substantially increased capital expenditure allocations this year, according to the budget statement given in Lagos yesterday by the minister of finance, Dr Onalapo Soleye.

The minister said that N261.8 million was voted as capital expenditure for rural development this year as against the N131 million last year while crop production takes N362.8 million compared with N296 million last year. Capital spending on manufacturing and crafts goes up to N393 million in 1985 from N216.8 million in 1984. Air transport system is to attract a capital expenditure of N173 million this year from N95.4 million last year, while posts and telecommunications has a capital allocation of N298 million, compared with N180 million last year. A total of N5.796 million is budgeted as capital expenditure this year as against N3.935 million last year.

Town and country planning also has an increased capital allocation of N38.2 million compared with the N4.4 million budgeted last year. The Federal Capital Territory has an allocation of N370 million compared with N250 million last year, while steel development was allocated N660.7 million as against N523.3 million last year.

Sectors with reduced capital allocation include science and technology with N3.7 million, down from N14.4 million last year, and housing which has N23.3 million this year, against N38.2 million last year. Capital allocation to land transport also fell from N304 million last year to N250 million this year.

In the area of recurrent expenditure, defence, the National Universities Commission and police have the largest allocations. Of the total recurrent expenditure of N5.473 billion budgeted this year against the N3.18 billion last year, the Ministry of Defence takes N656.5 million, compared with the N569 million allocated to it last year, while the National Universities Commission gets N442.5 million, a little less than the N443.81 million allocated to it last year. The police department has a recurrent expenditure allocation of N382 million, compared with N359.8 million last year. The Ministry of Information, Social Development, Youth, Sports and Culture will spend N282 million on recurrent expenditure as against the N284.2 million allocated to it last year while the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will spend N256.8 million this year compared with N272.49 million last year.

Lagos: Country on Road to Economic Stability

AB311130 Lagos International Service in English
0950 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] About 1 year ago, the masses of Nigerians were jubilating over the reemergence of military rule in Nigeria with the feeling of (?great relief). That feeling was borne out of their harrowing experience in the 4 years of civilian government during which the national economy deteriorated to a level which gave rise to an atmosphere of despondency throughout the country.

The accumulated salary arrears created financial frustration and insecurity among the workers. This was worsened by soaring prices of scarce commodities. On the external front, the civilian regime had committed Nigeria to so much debt that her ability to manage her economy had become almost impossible. The country's public debt by the time the military government intervened had risen to more than 30 billion naira. Nigerians were, therefore, convinced that the country needed a change in government to forestall total economic ruin, a change which could have been effected through the ballot box but for the blatant manipulation of the electoral process.

As the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, explained in his maiden press conference, the Nigerian Armed Forces could not stand idly by while this country was drifting

toward economic collapse. The priority of the military administration was inevitably the revitalization of the nation's economy. One of the early steps taken in this direction by the administration was to recover ill-gotten gains from those public officers and others who participated in plundering the national economy. The problem of mobilization fees to government contractors, which was an avenue through which public funds were syphoned, was abolished, while projects initiated by the ousted regime were either pruned down, suspended, or discontinued.

To build the country's depleted foreign reserve, the military government reduced basic traveling allowance to 100 naira. Imports were limited to only those very essential items, such as raw materials to keep local industries at maximum level of production. And realizing that illegal dealings in the naira played a significant role in the battering of the Nigerian economy, the government swiftly changed the colors of the naira, thereby checking the activities of currency traffickers and counterfeiters.

Although Nigeria is not completely out of the woods (?yet), the government has obviously made remarkable progress in the implementation of its economic recovery program. Today Nigeria has not only repaid well over 1 billion naira of her external debts, but has recorded substantial differences in the volume of our foreign reserves. Even the World Bank, in its latest annual report, identified Nigeria as one of the few African countries that have made progress toward financial stability. All indications are therefore that the various measures introduced by the military government are being faithfully implemented, and that it will not be long before Nigeria returns to a state of economic stability.

Board Reactivated To Regulate Islamic Officials

AB011511 Lagos NAN in English 1505 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Yola, Jan 1 (NAN) — The Gongola military governor, Major General Muhammadu Jega, yesterday in Yola said that the military administration would not allow religious fanaticism to destroy the political entity of the country.

At the inaugural meeting of the Islamic religious preaching board and the appellate body, Maj Gen Jega said that the administration had decided to introduce measures to curb the excess of religious preachers by reactivating the Islamic Religious Preaching Edict No 6 of 1979 and inaugurating the Islamic preaching board and the appellate body.

The governor said that the board would determine and regulate the qualifications required for any persons to become an Islamic religious preacher or a Koranic commentator. It would also consider and approve applications of persons qualified to conduct examinations and set standards for the purpose. Other functions of the board include issuance of licences to qualified persons as Islamic preachers and the provision of guidelines on the contents of religious songs or poetry to mosques or public places.

Maj Gen Jega appealed to religious leaders and traditional rulers to give maximum cooperation to the military administration to ensure the effectiveness of the board. The chairman of the board is Alhaji Musa Muhammadu Song.

Briefs

New Envoy to Burma — Nigeria's high commissioner to India, Rear Admiral Benson Okujagu, today in Rangoon presented his letter of credence to the president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, U San Yu. The high commissioner, who arrived in Rangoon on Wednesday for the ceremony, also presented a letter from the Federal Military Government recalling his predecessor, Theophilus Asiwaju-Dada. Rear Admiral Okujagu, apart from his posting to India, has a concurrent accreditation to Burma, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Thailand. [Excerpt] [*Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 28 Dec 84 AB*]

ANGOLA

MPLA-Labor Party Conference Set for 14-19 Jan

*MB031616 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] The first national conference of the MPLA-Labor Party will be held from 14 to 19 January in Luanda. In his new year message, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos defined the main task of this first national party conference, which will be held under the motto: "Let us organize ourselves for defense and production".

The party conference will make an exhaustive review of the work already done since the extraordinary congress of the MPLA-Labor Party in 1980 until now in the sphere of the internal life of the party itself as well as state activity, including the work of mass and social organizations.

Lara Discusses Strengthening of Vigilance Groups

*MB281200 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT
27 Dec 84*

[Excerpts] The ceremony for the integration of militarymen in the People's Vigilance Brigades was held at the 1 May Cinema House in Luanda this afternoon. The ceremony, the first of its kind in Angola, was presided over by Comrade Lucio Lara, secretary for organization of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, who (?referred to issues) related to the role and meaning of the People's Vigilance Brigades during the present stage of the Angolan revolution:

[Begin Lara recording] Among the countless actions that have been taken with a view to organizing and strengthening the People's Vigilance Brigades, both in quantity and quality, the integration of leaders of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and militarymen of the (?delegations) and institutions of the Ministry of Defense and chief of general staff represents an important event in view of the quality, responsibility, and militant experience of the new brigade members.

Today, more than ever before, imperialism's aggressiveness is centered around the southern African region, particularly with regard to violence in our country and against our unselfish people who, guided by their vanguard party, have heroically resisted.

The cynicism of the linkage policy has once again been unmasked. It has become clear that the fundamental question lies in the occupation of part of our territory, the occupation of Namibia, the use by the racist South Africans of puppet gangs for systematic destruction of our country's economic and social infrastructure, and also, as the imperialists want people to believe, the fraternal and supportive presence of the Cuban forces who, with the aid of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist bloc, have (?agreed) to bear the external aggression.

The dizzy break-up in recent months of the UNITA puppet units, which are trained and led by Pretoria, is evident from the heavy blows that FAPLA forces have inflicted upon them, and the suicidal attacks that have been carried out in some areas, such as Huambo, Kanguela, and Luao, where they have left hundreds of dead on the ground. This break-up is also evident in the armed disputes among the various puppet units, as recently occurred in Cunene, which forced the intervention of the racist South Africans in defense of their dearest lackeys.

Meanwhile, the South African radio spreads rumors about alleged attacks on the center of Luanda and other areas. This is certainly part of a diversionary operation to draw attention from other reports carried by the international news agencies that question the stability of UNITA's own puppet leadership. Moreover, there have been massive defections of armed elements from the UNITA puppet gangs to the civilian and military authorities of the People's Republic of Angola in Cunene, Benguela, Moxico, and Dembos, particularly after the open-minded welcome was given by our government to the former FNLA members who are presently undergoing a process of reintegration in the Angolan society.

It goes without saying that this break-up, which will lead to the slow, but safe liquidation of the puppet gangs, does not mean that imperialism will give up the creation of new internal and external instruments to continue with the destabilization of our country. Therefore, the People's Vigilance Brigades will be the safe and efficient component of the activities carried out by the defense and security forces. [end recording]

ANGOP Refutes UNITA Communique 'Fabrications'

*MB311751 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT
31 Dec 84*

[ANGOP Commentary: "Falsehood and Self-Praise"]

[Text] At an official ceremony marking the admission of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] officers to the people's vigilance brigades on Thursday of last week, Lucio Lara, organizing secretary of the party Central Committee, said, referring to the current situation of the UNITA counterrevolutionary gang, that UNITA is in total despair. Lucio Lara could not have found a better description of the current situation of the bandits.

The following day, the gangsters issued war communiqués to the press glorifying themselves in an attempt to promote their image. However, those war communiqués simply confirmed the statement of the Angolan official. UNITA has today transformed its successive military and political failures into great propaganda victories. It has never explained how it has been able to carry out this miracle and does not say in which part of the world this tactic of lies has succeeded. There is nothing surprising in the gang's attitude. The lackeys of Pretoria do not resist the temptation of manufacturing imaginary victories by making gross lies which are generally insidious. This is done because they simply no longer have the means to convince their masters, who are becoming increasingly suspicious and demanding.

UNITA propaganda is today based on an increasing fabrication of untruths. Falsehood and self-praise are becoming the foundation stones of its policy; but this is also a policy which is supported by feet of clay. At a time when FAPLA's victorious action is completely reassuring the Angolan people, the gang of assassins led by Savimbi, who no longer realize what is ridiculous, are trying to make ridiculous claims of success.

UNITA is not capable of concealing FAPLA's successes at Longonjo, Luau, Huambo, Cangola, and other places. In despair, it resorts to distorting facts. UNITA leaders claim victories at places where their men were repulsed by the armed wing of the Angolan people. At places where people are taking up arms to combat the terrorists, the puppets claim that the people are rebelling at those very places against the Angolan authorities. At places where the people gather to mark Christmas, UNITA claims that those gatherings were antigovernment protests. They have gone too far. The lackeys of imperialism are daily displaying the most ridiculous behavior. All this nonsensical propaganda is demonstrating the permanent despair and instability in their ranks. This means that UNITA's survival today appears like an inseparable [word indistinct] of a decision which was not taken by it. This is in fact the position taken by all [words indistinct].

UNITA understands that the Angolan people are responding with confidence and firmness to the challenge of imperialism. The successive military victories won by FAPLA demonstrate that our people's love for the revolution will not be suppressed or frustrated by the action of the reactionary forces. This is why today UNITA's lies appear like a story which is very far-fetched. This shows the puppets' mental imbalance which is becoming increasingly visible. These lies could not demonstrate anything else.

ANGOP: UNITA Chief of Staff Removed From Post
LD032310 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT
 3 Jan 85

[Text] The Angolan news agency ANGOP today reported in Luanda that Brigadier Chilingutula, chief of general staff of UNITA, has been removed from his post.

In a communique entitled "Deceitful Propaganda Leads to Puppets' Disgrace," ANGOP attributes Chilingutula's dismissal to the fanciful communiques drawn up by him in an attempt to conceal UNITA's setbacks.

ANGOP adds that the setbacks were so flagrant and repeated that they ended up by bringing about the disgrace of the so-called chief of general staff of the puppets and author of fanciful communiques.

UNITA Communique Reports Actions for 9-15 Dec
MB311120 (Clandestine) Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 31 Dec 84

[War communique for 9-15 December issued by UNITA's headquarters; date and place not given]

[Text] In Zaire Province on 12 December, our forces attacked an enemy motorized column of 7 vehicles in the (Toivo-Pedra do Feitico) road, 13 km west of Sumba. The enemy column suffered considerable losses.

In Uige Province on 9 December, we captured the enemy position of Uamba situated 18 km east of Sanza Pombo. This action led to important material damage in addition to some deaths and injuries among the Luanda government army.

In Luanda Province on 10 December, our forces simultaneously captured the enemy positions of (Mala Centro) and (Mimbota), located 97 and 101 km northeast of Luanda respectively. These two Army barracks were used as military instruction training centers with Cuban instructors. In this flank attack on the capital we killed 37 soldiers and 5 Cuban instructors. We captured an important quantity of military equipment. The vehicles and armored cars in these two military units were destroyed.

In Cuanza Norte on 10 December, our forces attacked the enemy barracks at Luinga, 37 km southeast of the town of Camabatela. We killed 23 People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers and injured many others. We captured 61 automatic weapons, 20 boxes of antipersonnel mines, and 180 assorted shells. The installations, vehicles, and light and water generators were destroyed by fire.

On the same day, our special commandos completely destroyed five electrical pylons of the Cambambe-Dondo-Salazar grid, bringing to a halt the Textile Factory of Angola, the (Eca) brewery, and other installations.

In Malanje Province on 13 December, a FAPLA column was attacked on the Samba Lucala-(Mussapo) road, 7 km south of Terra Nova. We killed 25 FAPLA soldiers and 2 Cubans. We destroyed four vehicles, including a bus for transporting officers and Cuban and Russian advisers.

In Cuanza Sul Province on 10 December, a FAPLA-Cuban column that was traveling on the Gabela-Novo Redondo-Sumbe road was ambushed by our troops. Antivehicle and antitank mines were also used. In this spectacular operation, the enemy suffered heavy casualties and we destroyed several troop carriers and armored cars. In removing the remains, we identified four Cubans and five FAPLA officers.

In Huambo Province on 12 December, our forces equipped with anti-aircraft guns shot an Antonov-12 military plane with its Cuban crew when it was making reconnaissance flights over the Vila Flor and Luimbale areas. The plane was forced to return to Huambo airport.

In Bie Province on 12 December, our forces overran the enemy garrison at (Caueue), 75 km southeast of Chitembo. First Lieutenant (Filipe Joao) was captured as well as several war articles and medicine left by the enemy in its disorderly flight. On 14 December, a military vehicle traveling from Bie to the enemy position of (Cambandua) detonated an antivehicle mine 12 km south of Chicava. The vehicle and its cargo were completely destroyed.

During this period, 142 FAPLA soldiers and 16 Cubans were killed and 3 FAPLA soldiers were captured. A total of 217 weapons and 125,000 round of ammunition were captured. Seven vehicles, 1 BTR and 2 BRDM-2's were destroyed. A total of 1,940 civilians were released. UNITA suffered 6 dead, 17 injured, and 2 missing. Four weapons were destroyed.

Voice of Truth Discusses Dos Santos, Machel Talks

MB020900 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola 2000 GMT 28 Dec 84

["Chronicle of the Day" program read by Afonso]

[Text] Friends and comrades, as you probably know, MPLA Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos met with the Frelimo chairman in Maputo. The main objective of the meeting was to coordinate their strategy to fight what they described as rebels on both sides.

In fact, the situation in both Angola and Mozambique is very critical. As we all know, particularly the people who live in the countryside, the situation in our Angola is very serious. UNITA forces have been operating ever closer to the main cities, namely in Luanda and Huambo. We have all learned of UNITA's operations around the capital (?as well as the) intervention of UNITA forces in Huambo [words indistinct]. Meanwhile, things are not going at all well in Mozambique. The resistance movement is increasingly gaining ground. According to recent reports, the Mozambican National Resistance [RENAMO] forces are operating 4 km from Maputo. Yesterday, reports from Lisbon said that RENAMO forces have isolated the Mozambican capital by interrupting the road traffic and cutting the water and electricity supplies to the city. RENAMO forces are demanding the fall of the Frelimo government and the establishment of a government of national reconciliation.

While the situation in Angola and in Mozambique deteriorates with each day, the leaders of the two countries met in a desperate attempt to see if they could (?control the cities) in order to save them from the latest offensives which put their positions at stake. The two leaders intend to exert pressure on South Africa to see if they can escape from the popular offensive. However, indications are that their days are numbered. The struggle will continue until we get the Cubans expelled and a government of national reconciliation. Comrades and friends, in these last few days of 1984 our attitude is firm: We want a defeat of the Cubans. Once that has been achieved, the path will be free for us to solve our problems only among Angolans. Comrades and friends, the struggle continues. Victory is certain.

FLEC Leader Calls for Fight Against Government

AB031719 Paris AFP in French 1144 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, 3 Jan (AFP) — Mr Francisco Xavier Lubota, the president of the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, FLEC (secessionist opposition to the Luanda government), on Wednesday asked all the people of Cabinda to unite and for fight for the "independence of the fatherland."

"Irrespective of their religious and political leanings and no matter where they are, the people of Cabinda," he stated in a communique, "must join hands with the FLEC in order to free our people. We must bury our differences," he said, "otherwise the Cuban troops will continue to oppress the Cabinda people."

The year 1985, Mr Lubota further said, must be a year of "hard fighting, both on the military and diplomatic fronts, in order to snatch our victory. Our combatants," he said, "control two-thirds of the national territory and are determined this year to make fiercer attacks on the enemy."

"We also believe that 1985 will be a year of better cooperation and harmonious understanding between all the forces that are fighting against Luanda's Marxism."

COMOROS

Federal Assembly Abolishes Office of Prime Minister

AB311953 Paris AFP in English 1727 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Moroni, Dec 31 (AFP) — The parliament of the Comoros today abolished the office of Prime Minister in a constitutional amendment adopted here.

The post of prime minister has been held by Ali Mroudje, who was originally appointed by President Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane in February 1982 and reappointed to office last October. There was no immediate indication of when a new government would be announced or of the future of Mr Mroudje, a former foreign minister.

The constitutional amendment altered the process for replacing the Comoron Federal Assembly which was convoked today by Mr Abderemane.

Another key amendment altered the process for replacing the head of state in this Indian Ocean archipelago if the president dies or becomes incapacitated. Under the amended article, if the Supreme Court, called on by the majority of government members, determines that the president can no longer effectively carry out his duties, he is to be replaced by the head of the Supreme Court. The interim president can neither remain on the Supreme Court nor become a candidate for the post of president, whose election must take place within 20 days, the amended article read. Previously the president was to be replaced by the president of the Federal Assembly.

MALAWI

Banda Dissolves Cabinet Effective 3 Jan

*MB031615 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda has dissolved the Cabinet as from today. Announcing this, the office of the president and Cabinet in Lilongwe said as the result of the dissolution of the Cabinet, all ministerial portfolios now revert to his excellency the life president.

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Denounces Portuguese Nationals' Role

*LD032248 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] Speaking in Beira on New Year's Eve, Marcelino dos Santos, the Mozambican Government's highest official in charge of Sofala Province and "number two" within Frelimo, denounced the role played by Portuguese nationals who, according to him, operate from Lisbon with the aim of destabilizing the People's Republic of Mozambique. Referring to Renamo officials born in Portugal, Marcelino dos Santos added that these Portuguese say in statements to the radio and the press that they will kill all their fellow countrymen who live and work as technical aid workers in Mozambique and yet they go unpunished because, he said, "Portugal is a democracy which allows a criminal to say that he is going to kill in another country."

Armed Forces Chief on Fight Against 'Bandits'

*MB011913 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT
1 Jan 85*

[Text] Colonel General Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, hosted a reception last night for the officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates who work in the Ministry of National Defense. The reception took place on the occasion of the end of the year, and it was attended by members of the Politburo and the Central Committee and national and foreign guests. Addressing the gathering, Col Gen Sebastiao Marcos Mabote reaffirmed that 1985 must be regarded as the year during which the fatal blow will be dealt to the armed banditry in Mozambique:

[Begin recording] The Mozambique Armed forces, FPLM, while swearing loyalty to their supreme commander, reaffirmed their loyalty to the Frelimo Party and the people and their unflinching determination to always continue to use force against, clash with, and oppose the armed banditry and all the forces which dare to oppose our sovereignty and our revolution. [applause]

Dear comrades, the development and strengthening of the glorious FPLM have always been a concern of our Frelimo Party, as stressed at the historic fourth congress of the Frelimo Party, as an indispensable condition for the triumph of the revolution.

Today, our Armed Forces are a wall of steel against which all the enemies of the Mozambican nation can smash themselves. They are engaged — thousands of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates — in implementing their patriotic duty in the various branches of the Armed Forces, in big and small units, in the regular forces and territorial forces. We say that the territorial forces are people's forces. They are forces which are organized by the party which leads them and the party is therefore the leadership of the troops.

The current operations to search out and completely destroy the armed bandits are the eloquent expression of the development of our forces. The current operations of the armed bandits are aimed at achieving spectacular successes to impress the people and international public opinion. With such actions, typically kidnappings and murder of foreign workers and defenseless nationals, the armed bandits and their mentors and masters aim at making the people lose confidence in their party and their armed wing and persuading friendly countries to stop giving assistance to the multilateral development of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

In this great epic moment of our people, specialists from friendly socialist countries are participating with us on the basis of militant internationalism and they are making a valuable contribution to the growth and strengthening of our Army. On this occasion, we extend to them good wishes for a happy New Year and hope they will continue to contribute with effort and dedication to the triumph of the Mozambican cause, which is also a cause of progressive mankind. [end recording]

Maputo Says Africa Does Not Need Charity

*MB031450 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Station commentary]

[Text] For millions of people in Africa, the year 1984 was a particularly unhappy one. The drought continued, causing death and suffering on a massive scale. But it is not the drought alone which is responsible for the magnitude of the catastrophe. A key factor is underdevelopment.

In an African country, hundreds of thousands of people die when there is a serious drought. In a developed European country, when there is a drought nobody starves to death. Developed countries have the means and the resources to withstand natural disasters while underdeveloped countries do not. The way forward for Africa therefore is obviously the rapid development of its nations' economy, and the process would be speeded up with the cooperation of the right countries.

Unfortunately, this is not happening. The tendency is for the rich countries to count drought relief aid as if it was part of an effort to help underdeveloped countries move forward. In fact it does not even help them maintain their present levels of development. Instead of providing new money to help overcome what is in fact an emergency in the continent, the trend is to siphon off funds which would have gone to Africa anyway, but for the purposes of economic development. It has to be said that not all rich

countries are doing this, but it is a trend. The effect is that overall commitment by the rich countries to African development effort is going down rather than up.

The contribution of developed countries toward relief programs in Africa is not to be scorned. It has saved many lives and Africa will need this kind of assistance for some time to come. But over and above this aid, Africa needs economic cooperation from the developed world.

There is a mistaken impression in some rich countries that this means charity. It does not. Through unequal terms of trade, loan interests, and management fees, the West is already taking more out of the underdeveloped world than it is putting in. While it is true Africa needs handouts to meet the drought emergency, this is not a long-term need. What Africa and the Third World as a whole require is a new economic relationship with the rich countries. It should be a relationship based on cooperation and mutual benefits, not on exploitation or phony notions of charity.

DPRK Agriculture Official Begins Visit

MB040908 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] (Han Pong-su), vice chairman of the DPRK agricultural committee, arrived in Maputo yesterday on a 40-day working visit. According to AIM, (Han Pong-su) heads a team of Korean experts who have come to Mozambique to study the widening of cooperation discussed during the visit by DPRK Premier Yi Chong-ok to our country in mid-1984. During his stay in Mozambique, the vice chairman of the DPRK agricultural committee will tour all areas where Korean cooperation is taking place, namely Gaza, Cabo Delgado, Maputo, and Manica Provinces.

A source with the Mozambican Ministry of Agriculture said that during the present visit, a joint study will be made to assess all irrigation potentials.

PRC Health Delegation Tours Hospital Facilities

MB030706 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] A four-man delegation from the Chinese Ministry of Health recently visited Mozambique to assess bilateral cooperation in the field of health. According to the Mozambican news agency, AIM, the Chinese delegation toured the Jose Macamo General Hospital in Maputo and the Pemba Provincial Hospital in Cabo Delgado, where teams of Chinese experts have been working.

During a meeting between the Chinese delegation and Minister of Health Pascal Mucumbi, the latter hailed the support that has been given by the People's Republic of China to Mozambique since the struggle for national liberation. He added that bilateral cooperation has been stepped up following the recent visit by President Samora Machel to China.

Briefs

Education Agreement With USSR — Twin schools will be created in Maputo and Moscow for the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Mozambique Teachers Organization [ONT] and Soviet Education and Science Workers Unions. The setting up of twin schools in the Mozambique and Soviet capitals is part of the cooperation agreement signed in Inhambane last Sunday between the representatives of the two social and professional organizations. The agreement was signed by Jose Pascoal Zandamela, ONT general secretary, and Nikolay Semenov, member of the presidium of the Central Committee of the Soviet Education and Science Workers Unions, who concludes his visit to Mozambique tomorrow. Nikolay Semenov said that the creation of twin schools between Maputo and Moscow will enable the exchange of certain information on the activities of pupils so that the children of the two countries may share views on various issues, such as art. [Excerpts] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 27 Dec 84 MB]

GDR Solidarity Donation — In Maputo this morning Helmut Matthes, the GDR ambassador to Mozambique, handed a donation from the GDR workers in solidarity with our people's struggle against famine and nakedness. The donation, which was received by Julio Carrilho, member of the party Central Committee and minister of public works and housing, comprises 110 tons of potato seed, 28 tons of precooked food, 1500 blankets, and 6,000 metres of material. Also included in the donation are a quantity of soap, agricultural implements, tents, clothes, medicine, medical instruments, and sports equipment. During the ceremony, the GDR ambassador pointed out that the donation constituted another expression of the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between states and peoples of Mozambique and the GDR. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 29 Dec 84 MB]

Indian Patrol Boats Acquired — Mozambique has acquired 10 small vessels from India. The vessels will be allocated to the Maputo, Beira, and Nacala maritime authorities for patrol services. Some of the vessels have already arrived at the Beira and Nacala ports, while those for Maputo are expected to arrive soon, the newspaper *NOTICIAS* reported today. The source, citing Deputy Minister of the Merchant Marine Isaias Muhate, adds that the vessels are equipped with all the navigation instruments and are capable of carrying six passengers each. They can travel at a speed of 19-20 knots in good weather conditions. The deputy minister of the merchant marine said the acquisition of the vessels will serve strengthen the patrolling of our coast, in view of its large extension. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 27 Dec 84 MB]

Ambassadors Present Credentials — President Samora Machel of Mozambique received on 14 December the credentials of Thierno Oumar Seck, ambassador of the Republic of Guinea, and Francois Bararwerekana, ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda. On the following day the Mozambican head of state

received the credentials of Kostaq Cifligu, ambassador of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and Syed Muhammad Hussain, ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. [Summary] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 17 Dec 84 p 2 MB]

FRG Envoy Departs — Hasso Buchrucker, FRG ambassador to Maputo, yesterday morning said farewell to the head of state, Marshal Samora Machel. According to NOTICIAS newspaper, the audience took place at the Ponta Vermelha Palace. Ambassador Buchrucker has ended his assignment in our country and will soon return to the FRG. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 4 Jan 85 MB]

NAMIBIA

SWANU Head: MPC To Continue Independence Moves
MB011725 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The Multiparty Conference [MPC] in South-West Africa will go ahead with its attempts to achieve speedy independence for the territory even if SWAPO and other parties do not react positively to its invitation to participate in the independence process.

This is the view of Mr Moses Katjiuongua, the president of the South-West African National Union [SWANU], which is a member of the conference. Mr Katjiuongua said in his new year message that the conference would continue its negotiations with, among others, the South African Government, the United Nations, and African countries with a view to achieving independence for South-West Africa.

He expressed the hope, however, that the parties concerned would react positively to conference invitations and that constructive suggestions would be forthcoming on a workable and acceptable constitution.

The MPC invited SWAPO and other interested parties last October to cooperate with the conference in its search for a settlement in South-West Africa. A full meeting of the conference will be held on 15 January to consider reactions to its invitations and further action.

SWANU 'Left Wing' Calls for 'Anti-Pretoria' Movement
MB040919 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English
4 Jan 85 p 2

[By Tony Weaver, MAIL Africa bureau]

[Text] Windhoek — The leftwing of the South-West African National Union [SWANU] yesterday called for the formation of an "anti-Pretoria" movement modelled on the United Democratic Front.

This is the latest blow in the war of words between internal parties supporting the South-West African People's Organisation and members of the Multi-Party Conference.

In a tough statement SWANU's general secretary, Mr Vekuii Rukoro, called for the unification of popular organisations and said mass mobilisation was essential in 1985.

"We have to have a visible role in our national politics, we have to supplement the courageous efforts of the Namibian guerrillas with effective mass action by all patriotic forces.

"No amount of diplomatic activities on our part can be a substitute for direct mass action within Namibia."

Mr Rukoro said the "challenge for the patriotic forces in 1985" was whether "we can emulate the historic example of the heroic people of South Africa by launching a UDF-type offensive of our own, or whether silly, petty, outdated party political considerations will be allowed to weaken our resistance."

He called on "all anti-Pretoria forces to make 1985 the year of unification in action of the national liberation movement".

Observers in South-West Africa see the statement as being the first major salvo in what promises to be a tense year of confrontation between members of the SWAPO Patriotic Alliance and the South African-backed Multi-Party Conference.

Nujoma: SWAPO Will Only Discuss RSA Withdrawal
MB011350 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The SWAPO leader, Sam Nujoma, says his organization is not going to deny responsibility, as he puts it, for yesterday's bomb explosion at the Ondangwa Post Office in the north of South-West Africa. Four people were killed and at least 14 injured in the explosion.

Addressing a news conference in Tunis after 2 days of talks with Tunisian leaders, Nujoma said that the bomb attack had been part of what he called the independence struggle in South-West Africa. He was prepared, he said, to engage in further talks with South Africa, but only with the purpose of discussing a South African withdrawal from South-West Africa and the holding of free elections in the territory.

SWAPO would confer with South African Government officials on the implementation of UN Resolution 435 in South-West Africa. Asked whether SWAPO would accept a transitional phase between the South African withdrawal and the holding of elections in the territory, Nujoma said there could be no half measures.

SOUTH AFRICA

UN Envoy: West Questions Security Council on Namibia
MB031606 Johannesburg International Service in English
 1500 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The South African ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Kurt von Schirnding, says that for the first time the West is starting to question the credibility of the UN [Security] Council on Namibia.

In a special report carried by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, he said Western countries were questioning the way in which the council used its funds as well as the visits made by members to various parts of the world. Mr von Schirnding said that the council on Namibia had been forced on to the defensive by the realization that southern Africa was succeeding in its [word indistinct] policies. He said this was apparent by the almost hysterical criticism of the South African Government.

P.W. Botha Disputes Hendrickse on Socialism
MB311629 Johannesburg Television Service in English
 1600 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] The state president says the government is still striving for the promotion of private initiative as a national goal.

Mr P.W. Botha was approached following a call by the Labor Party leader, the Reverend Alan Hendrickse, for South Africa to adopt a socialist economic marketing system. Mr Botha said the Labor Party, like any other democratic political party, was entitled to formulate its policy as it wanted to. Mr Botha said he had repeatedly declared himself in favor of promoting enterprise and the principle of competition in the economics field. He had often opposed the system of socialism and always made this clear.

Labor Party Calls for Nonracial Federal System
MB310618 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT
 31 Dec 84

[Text] The Colored Labor Party has agreed to adopt a new policy. The party's congress has appointed commissions to examine all discriminatory legislation and to outline a policy for a federal system of government for South Africa.

At its annual congress, which ended in Kimberley at the weekend, the party accepted what it called the concept of a nonracial federal dispensation based on geographical system. Delegates asked the Labor Party leadership to set up a committee to draw up such a policy.

The congress again expressed what it termed its unyielding opposition to all discrimination at all levels and in all its forms.

Campaign To Explain Role of Local Authorities
MB040621 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
 0500 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of cooperation, development, and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, says a comprehensive educational and information campaign is going to be undertaken throughout the country to explain the system of local authorities to blacks. He said the matter would receive urgent attention.

Dr Viljoen was responding in a statement in Pretoria to the findings and recommendations of the Van der Walt commission, which investigated the unrest in the Vaal Triangle last year. Dr Viljoen also announced that an investigation had been launched to determine the way rates and levies should be set in the Vaal Triangle, and that no further increases were contemplated at Lekoa township until the investigation had been completed.

Dr Viljoen said he agreed fully with the recommendation in the Van der Walt report concerning the improvement of communication between black town councils, the development board, and the public. Prof van der Walt said the causes for the unrest in the Vaal Triangle should be sought in the field of local government and not in education.

Dr Viljoen gave assurance that a wide ranging educational and information campaign, which included schools, would be undertaken countrywide. With regard to the official investigation into municipal tariffs and levies in the Vaal Triangle, Dr Viljoen said that the director of local management of the Department of Cooperation and Development, Mr (John) Hitchie, had already begun it. In the meantime, all increases in Lekoa had been postponed until July.

On the recommendation that additional sources of income for black local authorities should be urgently found, Dr Viljoen said that legislation in this connection would be introduced in Parliament this year by the minister of constitutional development, Mr Heunis.

In an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation, Dr Viljoen gave the assurance that the Van der Walt report would be made public. He said that Prof van der Walt had asked to be given time to edit the report, as it contained allegations and rumors. The edited report would then be released as soon as possible.

SWAZILAND

ANC Denies Involvement in Police Station Raid
MB031943 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT
 3 Jan 85

[Text] The ANC had denied involvement in the raid on a Swazi police station and prison. The raid earlier this week resulted in three ANC prisoners mysteriously disappearing. From Harare, Howard Barrell reports:

In a statement from Lusaka received here, the ANC alleges the three ANC prisoners have disappeared completely. It [word indistinct] the disappearance of the three to the fate of another four ANC members taken from Swaziland's Bhunya police station last year. These four men, the ANC says, were handed over to South African Security Forces with the complicity of the Swaziland police. The ANC is greatly concerned about the latest report that three ANC prisoners have once again disappeared, the ANC said today. The statement notes that the three prisoners' disappearance follows a threat by Swazi Police Commissioner Majaji Simelane that he would hand over ANC members to the South African Government. It is reliably understood that ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo is to take [word indistinct] disappearance of the three with the OAU and the United Nations.

Asks OAU To Help

*MB031855 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has asked the OAU to intercede with the Swaziland Government to ensure that ANC members were not sent to Pretoria. ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo made the appeal in Lusaka today in a statement issued following what he said were the strange disappearance of more ANC cadres from a Swazi police station cell where they were being detained. Mr Nzo said the ANC was gravely concerned at the latest disappearance report since there were four other ANC cadres who were handed over to South Africa from Swaziland last year whose fate nobody knew up till now.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda: Border Talks With Zaire Planned

*MB031830 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
3 Jan 85*

[Text] President Kaunda has disclosed that Zambia and Zaire will soon meet, possibly at heads of state level, to seek a permanent solution to the Zambia-Zaire border problems in Kaputa.

President Kaunda told a large crowd which welcomed him in Kaputa that both countries had observed the need to avert war and were desirous for a peaceful solution. Dr Kaunda made the disclosure after Kaputa acting District Governor (Bono Mulenga) said in his welcoming remarks that peace and security were a threat due to an influx of aliens in the country.

He said a committee appointed by the government last year had already submitted its report to the government, which was now studying the documents before finally meeting with Zaire.

President Kaunda noted that the seriousness of the border problem centers around Zaire's action to hoist its national flag 29 km inside Zambian territory several years ago. He said the central government had been worried at the prevailing situation and was doing everything possible to normalize the situation in Zaire-Zambia relations.

Paper Says RSA 'Deliberately' Delaying Namibia Issue *MB031301 Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 24 Dec 84 p 1*

[Editorial]

[Text] Is it possible for Comrade Sam Nujoma, the SWAPO president, to return to Namibia now and drive racist South Africa out of the territory?

If the answer is yes, we urge him to do so quickly because indications do not suggest that Namibia's independence will be achieved through peaceful means. SWAPO simply has no alternative but to fight to the bitterest end.

It must be quite obvious to everyone by now that Pretoria has been insisting and — for the next foreseeable future — will be insisting on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to deliberately delay the independence for Namibia.

Yesterday, South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha was reported to have flown to East Africa for talks with some "unnamed country" on the situation in Mozambique.

That sounds suspicious. Why should South Africa want to discuss affairs affecting an independent and sovereign state like Mozambique with other people rather than the Mozambicans themselves? Is Pretoria searching for another linkage?

President Samora Machel of Mozambique and his Angolan counterpart Eduardo dos Santos were meeting in Maputo at the time Mr Botha was probably conferring with some unknown persons elsewhere.

If Pretoria were faithful, couldn't Mr Botha surely have taken advantage of the presence of Mr dos Santos in neighbouring Mozambique to try and meet the two leaders who have really gone out of their way to demonstrate that they are sincere in all their dealings with South Africa?

The international community would not be surprised if it turned out that Mr Botha was, in fact, "somewhere" meeting rebels who are fighting, with Pretoria's overt backing, the lawful governments in Maputo and Luanda.

While Field Marshal Machel has thrown out ANC cadres from his country, which was one of the conditions for the signing of the Nkomati Accord with South Africa, Pretoria has not done the same with members of the so-called Mozambican National Resistance (MNR). In Angola, Pretoria is actively supporting UNITA rebels of Jonas Savimbi. Luanda has also signed an agreement with Pretoria but in both cases, it is Pretoria which is the defaulter.

Against this background, it is difficult not to support the stance adopted by Mr dos Santos and Marshal Machel at the weekend.

Therefore, any negotiations which exclude SWAPO, in as far as Namibia is concerned, must be seen as a waste of time; and no honest broker can claim to the contrary.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Speaks at Reception for Officials

*MB011920 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT
1 Jan 85*

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has told Zimbabweans to tackle all tasks with the same zeal and determination they showed last year. Comrade Mugabe was speaking at a reception hosted by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, at his residence for government and party officials. The prime minister said Zimbabweans have laid a firm foundation for stability and progress, adding that this foundation must be effectively used for development in 1985. He said in the past 5 years Zimbabweans have succeeded in so many areas, and 1985 must not allow any failures. Comrade Mugabe said the forthcoming general elections must not be seen as an end in themselves, but only as one of the steps towards achieving the goals that have been set by government and the party.

Mugabe Congratulates Castro on Anniversary

*MB030703 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT
2 Jan 85*

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has sent a message to President Fidel Castro of Cuba on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Cuban revolution. Comrade Mugabe's message says Cuba's commitment to the ideals of socialism and socialist solidarity has been an inspiration to the people of Zimbabwe.

Matabeleland North Urged To Vote ZANU-PF

*MB310620 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT
31 Dec 84*

[Text] The people of Lupane district, Matabeleland North Province, have been urged to vote overwhelmingly for the ruling party in the forthcoming general election. The minister of national supplies, Comrade Enos Nkala, who addressed a rally at (Ndala) business center in the district yesterday, said a ZANU-PF victory in Lupane will ensure peace, stability, and development. He said the election will give the people an opportunity to reject any political party which supports dissident activities.

The minister was informed that because of poor communication between the people and the district administration in Lupane, many people have not yet registered as voters. He was also informed that the government seed handout has not yet reached the people since the beginning of the rainy season. Comrade Nkala, who pledged to contact the district administrator, promised to take up the issue with the minister of local government and town planning.

Rallies aimed at mobilizing the people for the forthcoming general elections were also held at six other centers in Matabeleland North Province.

Munangagwa Says ZAPU 'Bandits' Terrorizing Voters

*MB030733 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT
2 Jan 85*

[Text] Harare — The minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, has told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that Pretoria-sponsored dissidents have been holding secret meetings in Matabeleland. He said they have also been threatening residents in the area with death if they vote for ZANU-PF in the forthcoming general election. Comrade Munangagwa added that the bandits who (owed) allegiance to super ZAPU have been using this tactic to scare voters from supporting ZANU-PF.

The minister of state said in some areas the bandits have resorted to terrorizing the people in order to force them to vote for ZAPU. However, Comrade Munangagwa emphasized that the government is taking necessary steps to ensure that these savage acts are stopped and the lives of those threatened will be protected.

The minister of state also disclosed that those suspected of having killed Senator Moven Ndlovu have been arrested and they are all from the Beitbridge region. He said none of them [words indistinct].

Security Forces Strengthened for Elections

*MB040545 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT
4 Jan 85*

[Text] The government has buffered the strength of security forces to ensure that all political parties will have maximum protection during this year's general election. The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, told the ZIMBABWE NEWS AGENCY yesterday that the increased security is able to counter any possible trouble from groups which may try to disrupt the elections. He also appealed to all parties to ensure that their followers go for a clean and fair campaign.

HERALD Discusses White Political Policies

MB291150 Harare THE HERALD in English 15 Dec 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Fighting talk"]

[Text] If there were any doubts as to the meaning of the Independent MPs' recent decision to change their leadership and elect Mr Bill Irvine to take over, the new chairman's pronouncements on Thursday must have laid them to rest.

At the press conference called by the new chairman to explain his group's (new) policies, those who attended the event are convinced that there was a noticeable swing to the right by the Independents.

Which is most unfortunate because its original stand is what separated it from the Conservative Alliance of Mr Ian Smith. For the first time ever the Independents are talking fighting talk.

Understandably, the Independent group has to fight for white votes with the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe [CAZ]. And the belief is that the team that shows it can protect the white minority will get the bigger share of the vote.

They may be missing the point and falling into the same trap that Mr Smith's group has found itself in. We believe the whites in this country had begun to accept the fact they soon would have to make do without special representation and live just as any other Zimbabweans.

We believe, too, that the whites in this country had begun to brace themselves for the inevitable introduction of a one-party state and were readying themselves to work within that framework.

The danger point will have been reached if the blacks start taking the attitude that "All whites are the same" because of the line the Independents seem to have chosen.

One shudders at the mere thought of what would happen if antagonisms between blacks and whites were allowed again.

We are by no means suggesting that the whites should simply succumb to the wishes of the blacks. What we are calling for is the continuation of esprit de corps that the Independents and the majority have built up over the past two years.

The Independents will find that their white, Colored and Indian constituents like it better that way.

Or, like the CAZ, have they also chose to ignore these two communities?

HERALD Comments on White South Africans' Attitudes
MB040831 Harare THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Pretoria's Only Hope"]

[Text] Political realism seems to be making hesitant, creeping inroads into the skulls of the minority ruling class in Pretoria. That is one conclusion that can be drawn from the results of a recent survey which showed that 43 percent of the white respondents favoured negotiations between their government and the African National Congress.

But even this belated attempt to be realistic suffers from the fact that another 44 percent of the white respondents opposed any such talks. The apartheid structure has been under sustained internal and external attack recently.

Next year promises to bring nothing but even more relentless opposition to apartheid and everything it stands for. It should be clear to all sane white South Africans that there will be no peace in their racially troubled country as long as the black majority is excluded from social, political and economic power.

Apartheid is a recipe for self-destruction. South Africa is headed for certain catastrophe unless the Pretoria regime is willing to talk to the ANC and to the other members of the freedom-loving anti-apartheid movements inside and outside South Africa's borders.